

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
TO THE
COMBINED DISTRICTS OF
EAST HERTS AND ESSEX
FOR 1899.

J. ANDREW TURNER, M.B., D.P.H.

HERTFORD:
STEPHEN AUSTIN AND SONS.
—
MDCCCC.

BOROUGH OF HERTFORD.

February, 1900.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for 1899.

GENTLEMEN,

I have now the pleasure of presenting to you my third Annual Report.

Population.

In 1891 the census population of the whole Borough was estimated to be 9,023.

During 1899 eighteen new houses have been occupied.

I have estimated the population of the whole Borough, to the middle of 1899, to be 9,393.

| | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------|-----------------------------|
| Number of Deaths registered | ... | 140. |
| Corrections | ... .. | 19. |
| „ | ... .. | 11. |
| Corrected Death Rate... | 14 | per 1000 of the population. |
| Birth Rate | 23·2 | „ „ „ |
| Zymotic Death Rate | 1·2 | „ „ „ |
| Diarrhœa | 5 | „ „ „ |
| Phthisis | 8 | „ „ „ |
| Cancer | 6 | „ „ „ |
| Infant Mortality | ... 134·1 | „ „ births. |

It will be noticed that the Birth Rate is slightly higher, while the Death Rate is considerable lower, than in 1898.

The Zymotic Death Rate is slightly higher, but the Infant Mortality is much less than the previous year.

In my Reports for 1897 and 1898, I remarked on the high Infant Mortality of the town, and pointed out that in small towns, where no factories exist, the rate of Infant Mortality should be lower than in the large towns, where mothers have to leave their children in incompetent hands during many hours of the day, whilst they are at work.

In 1897 Measles caused a great many of these deaths; in 1898 no death of infants occurred from Measles.

Whooping Cough, Diarrhœa, Premature Birth, and Tuberculosis are the diseases given in the Death Returns, but in 1899 Gastro-Enteritis is the name given to a form of disease which appeared during the hot Summer and Autumn months, and caused many deaths of infants; the

disease is, no doubt, caused by polluted milk and infant food, which soon becomes contaminated during the hot weather, unless strict cleanliness is observed, the milk boiled, and the utensils sterilized before and after being used.

Phthisis.

The number of deaths from this disease was higher than in 1898.

The public have heard so much lately with regard to Tuberculosis as being an infectious disease, that I trust a more strict supervision of our milk and meat supplies, and the isolation of persons suffering from Tuberculosis, will be enforced.

It is now well known by everyone that persons suffering from Tuberculosis of the Lung, commonly known as Phthisis, or Consumption, should not sleep in the same room with healthy persons; persons suffering from the disease should not be allowed to milk cows or perform any duties by which they are liable to transmit the germ of the disease directly or indirectly to others.

The Commission of Inquiry now sitting on these diseases will no doubt formulate some suggestions; notification of the existence of Tuberculosis should be made compulsory, and disinfection of premises and clothes should be enforced after the death of a person from the disease.

Cancer.

Five deaths from Cancer were registered, compared with 10 in 1898.

Deaths over 65 years of age.

Out of a total of 119 deaths, 31 were of persons over 65 years of age.

Deaths out of and in the District.

Twenty-one deaths occurred in the Infirmary, Hertford, 19 of which were of persons outside the District and are not included in these figures, but as 8 persons belonging to the town died at the Workhouse and 3 at the Hospital these have to be included in the statistics.

Deaths from Infectious Disease.

No serious epidemic occurred during the year.

Ten deaths were due to Infectious Disease. They were:—

| | | | | | | | |
|----------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|-------|
| Typhoid Fever | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 5 |
| Measles | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 3 |
| Whooping Cough | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2 |
| | | | | | | | <hr/> |
| Total | | | | | | | 10 |

In addition to these, 5 deaths occurred from Summer Diarrhoea.

Notification of Infectious Disease.

Forty-eight cases were notified, compared with 45 in 1898. They were :—

| | | | |
|-----------------|----|-------|---|
| Scarlet Fever | .. | 11 | |
| Diphtheria .. | .. | 11 | |
| Typhoid Fever | .. | 12 | { 4 of these came from outside the District to the Infirmary. |
| Puerperal Fever | .. | 1 | |
| Erysipelas .. | .. | 13 | |
| | | <hr/> | |
| Total | .. | 48 | |

Twenty-seven cases were removed to Hospital, viz. :—

| | | | | | | | |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|-------|----|-------|
| Scarlet Fever | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 11 |
| Diphtheria | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 11 |
| Typhoid Fever | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 5 |
| | | | | | | | <hr/> |
| | | | | | Total | .. | 27 |

I reported to you on the cases during the year.

Diphtheria.

One case was notified and removed to Hospital in May, and the disease did not spread. No other case occurred until September; this case was also removed to Hospital, and no further case occurred in the same house.

In November 4 cases occurred, all attending the same school, although living in different parts of the town. They were all removed to Hospital, and the disease did not spread. I inspected the schools and houses, and reported to you that there was nothing on the premises likely to cause the outbreak; the houses were disinfected, and no further case occurred amongst the children.

During the same month the disease appeared amongst children attending the Roman Catholic School. I visited the school, and examined the children and the sanitary arrangements. I advised that all children from infected houses should be prevented attending school, and that any suspicious case be reported to me; this was done and the infected houses disinfected and the outbreak was checked. All the cases were removed to Hospital.

Typhoid Fever.

In April I reported to you on the occurrence of 3 cases of Typhoid Fever in one house. The origin of the outbreak was traced to polluted drinking water to which the patients had access during their work. All the patients were removed to Hospital; one case proved fatal.

Two cases occurred in May in Providence Court; these were removed to Hospital; 1 proved fatal.

I reported to you on the condition of this Court and the defective sanitary arrangements. The disease never approached an epidemic form, the other 3 cases being in different parts of the town and always traceable to some outside influence.

Measles and Whooping Cough.

These diseases were prevalent during the year, causing the deaths of 5 children.

Summer Diarrhœa.

This disease was very prevalent in most parts of the County, and in Hertford 5 deaths were registered as due to it.

Inspection of the Town.

I have, with your Sanitary Inspector, inspected the town, and reports have been made to your Public Health Committee on many occasions with reference to Drainage, Water Supply, Houses of the Working Classes, Slaughterhouses, Dairies and Cowsheds, and Milk Supplies.

Drainage and Sewerage.

During the year the Sewage Works have been regularly inspected; I advocated adopting a better system of sewage disposal, but as the arrangement for transferring the management of the works to the East London Water Company was in process your Committee did not think it advisable to make any experiments.

I still think that a better means of dealing with the sewage could be adopted.

During the year I again received complaints from Ware as to the effluent discharged into the Lea.

Housing of the Working Classes.

I have had occasion to report to you on many houses in the town which I considered unfit for habitation; your Council adopted my reports and applied for closing orders under this Act. The cases were tried at some length, but most of the houses were considered by the Magistrates as fit for habitation.

I include in this report a copy of my report to you on these houses, as follows :—

“ April 11th, 1899.

“ GENTLEMEN,

“ It is the duty of the Medical Officer of Health to make a representation as to the unhealthiness of an area, or of certain houses, to the Local Authority.

“ I now, therefore, bring before your notice some houses which I consider both unhealthy and unfit for habitation; these houses occupy an area which for several reasons I consider to be an unhealthy one.

“ By referring to the plan which I lay before you, you will see that on the right-hand side of Green Street I have marked in red ten houses, all of which I consider unfit for habitation; these houses are numbered from 6 to 20, also 16*a* and *b*, two houses built back to back with 16, Green Street.

“ Another small block of houses, known as the Beehive, abutting on to the river, I also condemn as unfit for habitation.

“ Opposite these last is another house marked on the plan which I consider unfit for habitation.

“ Three house in the City, abutting or back to back with a Malting, are also unfit for habitation.

“ The house known as the Common Lodging House is also, in my opinion, unfit for habitation.

“ Apart from these individual houses, which I condemn, I consider that the area occupied by them, and also by some old buildings in Green Street, adjoining Mr. Elliott's bakehouse, to be an unhealthy one, by reason of the narrowness, closeness, and bad arrangement, and the want of air, light, and ventilation.

“ I therefore advise this Committee to take such steps as may be necessary for closing the said houses and urgently consider the advisability of improving this area.

“ There are several ways of doing this and ample powers are given by the ‘Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1890’; this Act makes it the duty of the Medical Officer of Health to represent to you any dwelling-house or area which appears to him dangerous or injurious to health, or unfit for habitation.

“ It makes it the duty of the Authority to cause to be made, from time to time, an inspection of their district, with a view to ascertaining whether any house is in such a condition as to be unfit for habitation.

“ It lays down that if a representation is made to the Authority, and the Authority refuse to act, the Local Government Board may hold an inquiry.

“ It also deals with obstructive buildings, reconstruction of houses, demolition of houses, and provision of dwelling accommodation.

“ I do not include in this report any suggestion for an improvement scheme, but I may say that your Borough Surveyor accompanied me in all my inspections, and we have prepared a rough scheme, which we will submit to you if required.

“ I ask this Committee to-day to pass a resolution recommending the Council to take the necessary steps, as soon as possible, for the closing of these houses, marked red on the plan, and their demolition, with a view of improving the sanitary condition of this part of the town.”

Dairies and Cowsheds.

These have been visited and reported on; some of the cowsheds and dairies are in very confined yards. I reported on them, but no action has been taken.

Your Council have adopted the New Regulations as to the control of Milk Supplies, and I trust that a further and more strict supervision will be adopted over the sale of Meat and Milk.

Slaughterhouses.

I reported to you on several occasions on the condition of the Slaughterhouses, and advocated the provision of Public Abbatoirs, or, at all events, Slaughterhouses, which could be used by all the butchers in the town.

A Committee has been appointed to inquire into this question, and the Borough Surveyor instructed to get an estimate of the cost.

I trust your Committee will not let this matter drop.

Water Supply.

I have analyzed three samples of water from the town supply, with the result that the water is of a high standard of purity.

I would strongly advise your Council to oppose any further depletion of the natural water supply by the New River Company.

A.

TABLE OF DEATHS during the Year 1899 in the BOROUGH OF HERTFORD, classified according to Diseases, Ages, and Localities.

| NAMES OF LOCALITIES. | MORTALITY FROM ALL CAUSES, AT SUBJOINED AGES. | | | | | | | MORTALITY FROM SUBJOINED CAUSES, DISTINGUISHING DEATHS OF CHILDREN UNDER FIVE YEARS OF AGE. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--|---------------|----------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|--|-----------|-------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------|------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|----------|-------------|----------|--------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|-----------|---|----------------|---------|-----------|------------------------|--------|-----|--|
| | At all ages. | Under 1 year. | 1 and under 5. | 5 and under 15. | 15 and under 25. | 25 and under 65. | 65 and upwards. | | Smallpox. | Scarlatina. | Diphtheria. | Membranous Croup. | Typhus Fever. | Enteric or Typhoid Fever. | Continued Fever. | Relapsing Fever. | Puerperal Fever. | Cholera. | Erysipelas. | Measles. | Whooping Cough. | Diarrhoea and Dysentery. | Rheumatic Fever. | Phthisis. | Bronchitis, Pneu- monia, & Pleurisy. | Heart Disease. | Cancer. | Injuries. | All other Diseases. | Total. | | |
| Hertford | 119 | 30 | 6 | .. | 4 | 48 | 31 | Under 5 5 upwds. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 3 | 2 | 5 | .. | .. | 3 | .. | .. | .. | .. | 23 | 36 | |
| General Infirmary | 21 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 12 | 3 | Under 5 5 upwds. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | 2 | |
| TOTALS | 140 | 31 | 7 | 2 | 6 | 60 | 34 | Under 5 5 upwds. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 3 | 2 | 5 | .. | .. | 4 | .. | .. | .. | .. | 24 | 38 | |
| The subjoined numbers have also to be taken into account in judging of the above records of mortality. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Deaths occurring outside the District among persons belong- ing thereto | 11 | ... | 1 | 3 | ... | 1 | 6 | Under 5 5 upwds. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| Deaths occurring within the District among persons not belonging thereto | 19 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 9 | 2 | Under 5 5 upwds. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 2 | |



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B.

TABLE OF POPULATION, BIRTHS, and of NEW CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS, coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health, during the Year 1899, in the BOROUGH OF HERTFORD, classified according to Diseases, Ages, and Localities.

| NAME OF LOCALITIES. | POPULATION AT ALL AGES. | | Registered Births. | NEW CASES OF SICKNESS IN EACH LOCALITY COMING TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH. | | | | | | | | | | | | NUMBER OF SUCH CASES REMOVED FROM THEIR HOMES IN THE SEVERAL LOCALITIES, FOR TREATMENT IN ISOLATION HOSPITAL. | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|--|-----------|-------------|-------------|-------------------|---------------|---------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|----------|-------------|---|-------------|-------------|-------------------|---------------|---------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|----------|-------------|--|
| | Last Census | Estimated to middle of 1899. | | Aged under 5 or over 5. | Smallpox. | Scarlatina. | Diphtheria. | Membranous Croup. | Typhus Fever. | Enteric or Typhoid Fever. | Continued Fever. | Relapsing Fever. | Puerperal Fever. | Cholera. | Erysipelas. | Smallpox. | Scarlatina. | Diphtheria. | Membranous Croup. | Typhus Fever. | Enteric or Typhoid Fever. | Continued Fever. | Relapsing Fever. | Puerperal Fever. | Cholera. | Erysipelas. | |
| Hertford | 9023 | 9393 | ... | Under 5 5 upwds. | ... | 5 6 | 83 | ... | ... | 8 | ... | ... | 1 | ... | 13 | ... | 5 6 | 83 | ... | ... | 5 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | |
| St. Johns | ... | ... | 90 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| All Saints | ... | ... | 11 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Bengeo | ... | ... | 58 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| St. Andrews | ... | ... | 36 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Brickendon Urban | ... | ... | 22 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| TOTALS | 9023 | 9393 | 217 | Under 5 5 upwds. | ... | 5 6 | 83 | ... | ... | 8 | ... | ... | 1 | ... | 13 | ... | 5 6 | 83 | ... | ... | 5 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | |

**Summary of Work done through the Sanitary Inspector
in the Borough of Hertford Sanitary District during
the year ended December 31st, 1899.**

| | TOTAL NUMBER FOR YEAR. | RESULT OF INSPECTION, ETC. |
|--|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Complaints received | 23 | |
| Nuisances detected without complaints ... | 113 | |
| Nuisances abated | 136 | |
| Notices served... .. | 47 | |
| Summonses taken out | 7 | |
| Convictions | 3 | |
| Cottages inspected | 211 | |
| Lodging-houses inspected | 3 | |
| Slaughterhouses inspected | 8 | |
| Bakehouses inspected | 11 | |
| Milk-shops inspected | 1 | |
| Cowsheds and dairies inspected | 14 | |
| Workshops inspected | 10 | |
| Filthy houses cleansed, sec. 46, Public Health Act, 1875 | 17 | |
| Houses disinfected | 18 | |
| Overcrowding abated | 1 | |
| Houses placed in habitable repair | 17 | |
| Houses connected with sewers | 25 | |
| Houses connected with water mains | 25 | |
| w.c.'s repaired ; w.c.'s supplied with water | 6 | |
| Animals improperly kept removed... .. | 2 | |
| Samples of water taken for analysis | 3 | |
| New houses built | 18 | |
| New workshops | 6 | |
| New stables | 3 | |

WARE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

January, 1900.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for 1899.

GENTLEMEN,

I have now the pleasure of presenting to you my third Annual Report.

Population.

The population, estimated to the middle of 1899, was 5,241.

Number of Deaths registered ... 139.

Corrections 20.

Corrected Death Rate 22·7 per 1000 of the population.

Birth Rate 34·1 „ „ „

Zymotic Death Rate 1·7 „ „ „

Diarrhœa 2·6 „ „ „

Phthisis 3·8 „ „ „

Cancer 9 „ „ „

Infant Mortality ... 167·5 „ „ births.

The Birth Rate is lower than in 1898.

The Death Rate is higher, 139 deaths having occurred, compared with 118 in the previous year.

The Zymotic Death Rate is higher, the number of deaths from Diarrhœa and Phthisis being also increased.

The Infant Mortality is much higher than last year, and is above the average for towns in England.

The causes of this high Infant Mortality are given in the Death Returns as Diarrhœa, Bronchitis, Consumption, Whooping Cough, Premature Birth, etc.

Summer Diarrhœa was prevalent during July, August, September.

In the hot weather milk and bottle food is very liable to become infected unless scrupulous cleanliness is observed and all milk boiled.

During these months eight deaths of infants were registered as due to Diarrhœa; during January, February, March, and April, eight were registered as due to Bronchitis and Whooping Cough.

Deaths from Infectious Disease.

Eleven deaths occurred from Infectious Disease, compared with four in 1898. They were:—

| | | | | | | |
|----------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| Diphtheria | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 |
| Whooping Cough | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 8 |
| | | | | | | <hr/> |
| Total | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 11 |

Diarrhœa.

Thirteen deaths occurred from Diarrhœa; 11 of these were of infants under 1 year of age, 8 dying during the Summer months and 3 during March.

Notification of Infectious Disease.

Thirty-eight cases of Infectious Disease were notified, compared with 14 in 1898. They were:—

| | | | | | | |
|-----------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| Scarlet Fever | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 9 |
| Diphtheria | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 15 |
| Erysipelas | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 13 |
| Puerperal Fever | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| | | | | | | <hr/> |
| Total | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 38 |

Scarlet Fever.

Nine cases were notified, all removed to Hospital; the disease was of a mild form; the cases chiefly occurred in Trinity Road and Musley Hill.

Diphtheria.

This disease was notified in April, June, August, September, and October.

In October 8 cases were notified, and I reported to you on the outbreak; three of these were not found on bacteriological examination to be Diphtheria.

The other five were removed to Hospital; the disease did not spread from any house from which a case was removed; five of these children were attending New Road Schools.

I visited New Road Schools and inspected the sanitary arrangements, and also made investigations into any suspicious cases of illness amongst the children.

The houses were inspected and inquiries made as to the milk supplies.

I gave instructions that no children from infected houses should attend school.

No further cases occurred amongst the children attending this school.

On the receipt of a notification of infectious disease the case is removed to Hospital if possible, and the house disinfected; children in an infected house are prevented from attending school.

Typhoid Fever.

No cases of this disease were reported during the year.

Several cases occurred just outside the Urban District boundary, but cannot be said to be connected with the sanitary condition of the town.

Whooping Cough.

This disease was prevalent, causing 8 deaths.

Summer Diarrhoea.

In common with the other towns of the county, Summer Diarrhoea appeared during the Autumn.

This disease is no doubt spread by infected food, chiefly milk and infant food, which is exposed to the air and thus becomes polluted.

All infant food should be carefully sterilized, and the utensils carefully cleaned before being used.

Water Supply.

The town is chiefly supplied with water from deep wells sunk in the chalk and pumped into a Reservoir, and delivered to the town by iron pipes.

There are a few wells in the town, but they are gradually becoming abolished.

Drainage and Sewage Disposal.

The town is well sewered, and the sewage delivered on to a farm outside the town.

The sewage farm has been improved by repairing and improving the carriers.

Inspection of the Town.

This is done regularly, and any nuisances detected are dealt with. Twenty-seven complaints were received, and orders for sanitary amendments were made in 16 houses.

Houses of the Working Classes.

There are some houses in the town which require dealing with, and I propose to bring them before your notice early in the year.

Flushing of w.c.'s.

I have reported to you on several occasions on the absence of any proper means of flushing w.c.'s; without proper means of flushing them w.c.'s become a nuisance, and are not only dangerous to the health of the occupants of the houses, but may cause a blockage in joint drains, where several houses discharge into a common drain before entering the sewer.

Cowsheds and Dairies.

Your Council have adopted the recommendations advised by the Local Government Board, in addition to "The Dairies and Cowsheds Act, 1885"; this gives your Council stricter supervision over the Milk Supply, and I would urge that your Inspector be instructed to regularly visit all Dairies and Cowsheds and report from time to time.

Condition of the Lea.

I reported to you on the condition of the Lea where the Hertford sewage effluent discharges; I have included that report in my Annual Report to the Borough of Hertford.

I received complaints as to the condition of this ditch. I inspected the ditch and Sewage Works, and found that although the effluent was good in the ditch itself, there was, at the point of discharge into the Lea, an accumulation of black matter floating backwards and forwards.

This is no doubt caused by the water in the ditch being held up by the river instead of getting into the stream and disappearing; this is accentuated by the presence of the lock, which when opened stirs up the matter in the river, and as the river was very low during the Summer, this condition of things was much more noticeable.

At the time of my last visit there was a distinct sewage odour, and I was assured at Ware that the smell was very offensive at times.

The Sewage Works are regularly inspected by a Sub-Committee, and a report is made on the condition of the works to the Public Health Committee.

Appended to this report is a statement of work done, and Tables A and B of Deaths and Sickness Returns, Infectious Disease Notifications, and cases removed to Hospital.

WARE URBAN SANITARY DISTRICT.

Inspector's Report of the Sanitary Work completed in the year 1899.

SANITARY DISTRICTS.

| | TOTALS |
|---|--------|
| Complaints received during the year | 27 |
| Houses, Premises, etc., inspected | 97 |
| Re-inspections of Houses, Premises, etc. | 41 |

Results of Inspection.

| | |
|---|----|
| Orders issued for Sanitary Amendments of Houses and Premises | 16 |
| Houses, Premises, etc., Cleansed, Repaired, Whitewashed, etc. ... | 33 |
| Houses Disinfected after illness of an Infectious Character ... | 16 |

House Drains.

| | |
|--|----|
| Repaired, Cleansed, Trapped, etc. | 21 |
| Ventilated | 2 |

Privies and Water-closets.

| | |
|----------------------------|---|
| Repaired, etc. | 5 |
| Supplied with Water | 2 |
| New provided | 2 |

Dustbins.

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Repaired, Covered, etc. | 2 |
|--------------------------------|---|

Water Supply.

| | |
|---|---|
| Waste Pipes connected with Drains, etc., abolished | 8 |
|---|---|

Miscellaneous.

| | |
|---|---|
| Number of Lodging Houses registered under 35th Section of the "Sanitary Act, 1866," or 90th Section of "Public Health Act, 1875" | 2 |
| Dust Removal — number of communications received and attended to | 6 |
| Bakehouses regularly inspected ... | 4 |
| Licensed Cowsheds | 4 |
| Licensed Slaughterhouses | 6 |

A.

TABLE OF DEATHS during the Year 1899 in the WARE URBAN DISTRICT, classified according to Diseases, Ages, and Localities.

| NAMES OF LOCALITIES. | MORTALITY FROM ALL CAUSES, AT SUBJOINED AGES. | | | | | | | MORTALITY FROM SUBJOINED CAUSES, DISTINGUISHING DEATHS OF CHILDREN UNDER FIVE YEARS OF AGE. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------|--|---------------|----------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|--|-----------|-------------|-------------|-------------------|---------------|---------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|----------|-------------|----------|-----------------|-------------------------|------------------|-----------|------------------------------------|----------------|---------|-----------|---------------------|----------|----------|
| | At all ages. | Under 1 year. | 1 and under 5. | 5 and under 15. | 15 and under 25. | 25 and under 65. | 65 and upwards. | | Smallpox. | Scarlatina. | Diphtheria. | Membranous Group. | Typhus Fever. | Enteric or Typhoid Fever. | Continued Fever. | Relapsing Fever. | Puerperal Fever. | Cholera. | Erysipelas. | Measles. | Whooping Cough. | Diarrhea and Dysentery. | Rheumatic Fever. | Phthisis. | Bronchitis, Pneumonia, & Pleurisy. | Heart Disease. | Cancer. | Injuries. | All other Diseases. | Total. | |
| Ware | 108 | 30 | 15 | 5 | 6 | 23 | 29 | Under 5 5 upwds. | ... | ... | 1 2 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 7 1 | 12 1 | ... | 2 5 | 9 10 | ... | ... | ... | 2 3 | 12 28 | 45 63 |
| Union Workhouse | 31 | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 9 | 21 | Under 5 5 upwds. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| TOTALS | 139 | 30 | 15 | 5 | 7 | 32 | 50 | Under 5 5 upwds. | ... | ... | 1 2 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 7 1 | 12 1 | ... | 2 6 | 9 16 | ... | ... | ... | 2 3 | 12 47 | 45 94 |

The subjoined numbers have also to be taken into account in judging of the above records of mortality.

[illegible]

B.

TABLE OF POPULATION, BIRTHS, and of NEW CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS, coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health, during the Year 1899, in the WARE URBAN DISTRICT, classified according to Diseases, Ages, and Localities.

| NAME OF LOCALITIES. | POPULATION AT ALL AGES. | | Registered Births. | NEW CASES OF SICKNESS IN EACH LOCALITY COMING TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH. | | | | | | | | | | | NUMBER OF SUCH CASES REMOVED FROM THEIR HOMES IN THE SEVERAL LOCALITIES, FOR TREATMENT IN ISOLATION HOSPITAL. | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|--|-----------|-------------|-------------|-------------------|---------------|---------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|----------|---|-----------|-------------|-------------|-------------------|---------------|---------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|----------|-------------|
| | Last Census | Estimated to middle of 1899. | | Aged under 5 or over 5. | Smallpox. | Scarlatina. | Diphtheria. | Membranous Croup. | Typhus Fever. | Enteric or Typhoid Fever. | Continued Fever. | Relapsing Fever. | Puerperal Fever. | Cholera. | Erysipelas. | Smallpox. | Scarlatina. | Diphtheria. | Membranous Croup. | Typhus Fever. | Enteric or Typhoid Fever. | Continued Fever. | Relapsing Fever. | Puerperal Fever. | Cholera. | Erysipelas. |
| Ware | 5256 | 5241 | 171 | Under 5 5 upwds. | ... | 2 7 | 7 8 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | 13 | ... | 2 8 | 2 10 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| TOTALS | 5256 | 5241 | 171 | Under 5 5 upwds. | ... | 2 7 | 7 8 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | 13 | ... | 2 8 | 2 10 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |

BISHOP'S STORTFORD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

February, 1900.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for 1899.

GENTLEMEN,

I have now the pleasure of presenting to you my third Annual Report.

Population.

The population of the town, estimated to the middle of 1899, was 7,445.

These figures are arrived at by counting the number of inhabited houses and multiplying them by 4·5; previously I have estimated the population by the method adopted by the Registrar-General, which depends on the natural increase or decrease according to the difference of population in the census of 1881 and 1891.

This method would make the population of Bishop's Stortford to be at the present time 6,517, but as I am informed that a large number of new houses have been occupied since the 1891 census was taken I have estimated the population as above.

Number of Deaths registered, 135.

Corrections 20.

Corrected Death Rate 15·4 per 1000 of the population.

Birth Rate 24·3 „ „ „

Zymotic Death Rate... .. '2 „ „ „

Diarrhœa '9 „ „ „

Cancer '6 „ „ „

Phthisis '5 „ „ „

Infant Mortality ... 121·5 „ „ births.

These figures compare well with those of last year.

Thirty-one deaths occurred in the Workhouse and 4 in the Isolation Hospital, 20 of which were of persons belonging outside the District and are not included in these figures.

The Death Rate is lower than in 1898, while the Birth Rate is about the same; last year, however, the statistics were estimated on the population of 6,517.

If this basis had been taken for 1899 the Death Rate would still have been lower, while the Birth Rate would be much increased.

Infant Mortality.

This is somewhat higher than it should be for a town of this description, but is much lower than other towns of the County; a high

Infant Mortality is very noticeable during 1899, Summer Diarrhœa being very prevalent, causing a large number of deaths of infants in many parts of the County, both Urban and Rural.

The disease is no doubt spread by infected milk and infant food, and the greatest care should be taken in sterilizing all milk and food, and thoroughly steaming all utensils by which infants are fed. Tuberculosis, Premature birth, Diarrhœa, and Bronchitis are the chief causes given in the Death Return.

Deaths from Infectious Disease, not necessarily notifiable.

| | | | | | | | |
|-----------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|---------|
| Measles | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Puerperal Fever | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Diarrhœa | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 7 |
| Total | | | | | | | <hr/> 9 |

No death occurred from any of the notifiable diseases.

Notification of Infectious Disease.

Twenty cases were notified, viz. :—

| | | | | | | |
|------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----------|
| Scarlet Fever... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 16 |
| Typhoid Fever | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Erysipelas | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 |
| Total | | | | | | <hr/> 20 |

Typhoid Fever.

One case notified, which was contracted outside the District.

Scarlet Fever.

Sixteen cases notified during the year.

I reported to you in February on the outbreak of Scarlet Fever at the High School; all the patients were isolated in the Sanatorium.

One case of this disease occurred in the town in May and 1 in June; the patients were removed to Hospital, and the disease did not spread.

In December several cases occurred amongst the children attending Hockerill Schools and British Schools. I advised that the schools be closed and disinfected, and that certain alterations be made in the sanitary arrangements of Hockerill Schools. The cases were removed to Hospital, and the outbreak was checked as far as that particular outbreak occurred.

Diphtheria.

No case was notified during 1899.

Measles and Whooping Cough.

These diseases were prevalent during the year; 1 death occurred from Measles.

Diarrhœa.

This disease again appeared during the Autumn months, causing the death of 7 children.

Isolation Hospital.

Many meetings were held during the year to consider this question, and a scheme was adopted and plans for increasing the accommodation submitted to the Local Government Board; I went with a deputation from the Council, including the Chairman and Surveyor, and interviewed Dr. Parsons, of the Local Government Board, and submitted the proposed plans.

The plans were approved by the Local Government Board, subject to certain alterations suggested by them, which increased the expense.

The Hertfordshire County Council instructed me to hold an Inquiry into the condition of the existing Isolation Hospital accommodation, which I did, and reported on to the County Council.

The County Council also held an Inquiry, with the result that they reported that they did not consider the present accommodation sufficient, and adjourning the Inquiry until 27th February, 1900, in order to give your Urban District Council time to make further accommodation.

Your Council have made temporary arrangements with the Rural District Hospital Committee to receive cases of Diphtheria until September 29th, 1900.

In view of the recent outbreak of Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria I must still urge on your Council to make better and permanent arrangements for isolating these diseases.

Much has been done by your Council to make the existing Hospital more comfortable, but you are still without accommodation for two classes of disease, and still without proper means for disinfection; at present the existing method of controlling the spread of infection is inadequate.

Cases of Scarlet Fever can be removed to Hospital and remain there until free from infection, but on discharging them the system in vogue was very imperfect: the cases used to go straight from the wards without thorough disinfection; the bath-room, or discharging-room, was used as a nurse's bedroom. This has been altered by furnishing a bedroom for the nurse at the Cottage, and the bath-room and discharging-room will be available. The clothes and bedding are now sent to the Rural Hospital for disinfection.

I would urge your Council to consider these points so that a better system can be adopted after September, when the time of the temporary arrangement expires.

Water Supply.

The town is chiefly supplied with water from deep wells, from which the water is pumped to a reservoir and delivered to the town by pipes.

There are still some private wells existing, which have been inspected, and in some cases I have analyzed samples of water.

In two cases the water proved to be polluted, and notice was served on the owners and the town supply laid on.

Drainage and Sewerage.

The condition of the Drainage and Sewerage remains the same.

Sewage Farm.

I have inspected the Farm and find it to be working satisfactorily; the difficulty of dealing with the night sewage still remains.

Inspection of the Town. – Housing of the Working Classes.

This has been done regularly, and I have had to report to you on the condition of several houses; notices have been served on the owners and certain sanitary amendments carried out.

Notice was served under “The Housing of the Working Classes Act” for closing of a house. An order was obtained, and the house was closed.

Slaughterhouses.

These have been regularly inspected and reported on.

Dairies and Cowsheds.

Your Council has adopted the New Regulations, which give your officers further control over the milk supply.

W.C.’s and Flushing.

During these inspections the insanitary condition of the w.c.’s was very noticeable.

Very few closets in the smaller houses have flushing apparatus, the result being that the pans become very offensive and the drains blocked. I would advise that your Council adopt Bye-laws, requiring every house where a w.c. exists to provide proper means for flushing.

In your Bye-laws for new houses this is inserted, compelling every new house provided with a w.c. to have an automatic flushing tank.

Appended to this report is a statement of the work done by the Sanitary Inspector, also Tables A and B of Death and Sickness Returns, and cases of Infectious Disease notified and removed to Hospital.

A.

TABLE OF DEATHS during the Year 1899 in the BISHOP'S STORTFORD URBAN DISTRICT, classified according to Diseases, Ages, and Localities.

| NAMES OF LOCALITIES. | | | MORTALITY FROM ALL CAUSES, AT SUBJOINED AGES. | | | | | | MORTALITY FROM SUBJOINED CAUSES, DISTINGUISHING DEATHS OF CHILDREN UNDER FIVE YEARS OF AGE. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------|-----|-----|--|---------------|----------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|--|---------------------|-----------|-------------|---------------------|----------------------|---------------|------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|----------|-------------|----------|--------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|-----------|---|----------------|---------|-----------|------------------------|--------|
| | | | At all ages. | Under 1 year. | 1 and under 5. | 5 and under 15. | 15 and under 25. | 25 and under 65. | 65 and upwards. | | Smallpox. | Scarlatina. | Diphtheria. | Membranous Croup. | Typhus Fever. | Enteric or Typhoid Fever. | Continued Fever. | Relapsing Fever. | Puerperal Fever. | Cholera. | Erysipelas. | Measles. | Whooping Cough. | Diarrhoea and Dysentery. | Rheumatic Fever. | Phthisis. | Bronchitis, Pneu- monia, & Pleurisy. | Heart Disease. | Cancer. | Injuries. | All other Diseases. | Total. |
| Bishop's Stortford | ... | ... | 100 | 22 | 11 | 3 | 1 | 30 | 33 | Under 5 5 upwds. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | 7 | ... | ... | 4 | 7 | ... | ... | ... | 18 | 33 |
| Union Workhouse | ... | ... | 31 | 2 | ... | ... | 1 | 12 | 16 | Under 5 5 upwds. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | 3 | 4 | 1 | 6 | 1 | ... | 2 | 2 |
| Isolation Hospital * | ... | ... | 4 | ... | 1 | ... | ... | 3 | ... | Under 5 5 upwds. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | 1 | ... | ... | 1 | 3 |
| TOTALS | | | ... | ... | ... | 135 | 24 | 12 | 3 | 2 | 45 | 49 | Under 5 5 upwds. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | 7 | ... | ... | 7 | 20 | 8 | 12 | 2 | 20 | 36 |

The subjoined numbers have also to be taken into account in judging of the above records of mortality.

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|---------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Deaths occurring outside the District among persons belong- ing thereto | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | Under 5 5 upwds. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Deaths occurring within the District among persons not belonging thereto * | 20 | 2 | 1 | ... | 1 | 9 | 10 | Under 5 5 upwds. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | 4 | ... | 6 | ... | ... | 2 | 9 | 3 | 20 |

B.

TABLE OF POPULATION, BIRTHS, and of NEW CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS, coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health, during the Year 1899, in the BISHOP'S STORTFORD URBAN DISTRICT, classified according to Diseases, Ages, and Localities.

[illegible]

BISHOP'S STORTFORD URBAN SANITARY DISTRICT.

Inspector's Report of the Sanitary Work completed in the year 1899.

SANITARY DISTRICTS.

| | TOTALS |
|--|--------|
| Complaints received during the year... | 18 |
| Houses, Premises, etc., inspected ... | 164 |
| Re-inspections of Houses, Premises, etc. ... | 196 |
| <i>Results of Inspection.</i> | |
| Houses, Premises, etc., Cleansed, Repaired, Whitewashed, etc. ... | 3 |
| Houses Disinfected after illness of an Infectious Character ... | 11 |
| <i>House Drains.</i> | |
| Repaired, Cleansed, Trapped, etc. ... | 7 |
| <i>Privies and Water-closets.</i> | |
| Repaired, etc. ... | 1 |
| Supplied with Water ... | 2 |
| New provided ... | 2 |
| <i>Dustbins.</i> | |
| New provided ... | 2 |
| Repaired, Covered, etc. ... | 6 |
| <i>Miscellaneous.</i> | |
| Number of Lodging Houses registered under 35th Section of the "Sanitary Act, 1866," or 90th Section of "Public Health Act, 1875" ... | 1 |
| Dust Removal — number of communications received and attended to ... | 10 |
| Removal of accumulations of Dung, Stagnant Water, Animal and other Refuse ... | 13 |
| Animals Removed, being improperly kept, Pigs ... | 40 |
| Bakehouses ... regularly inspected ... | 8 |
| Licensed Cowsheds ... | 6 |
| Licensed Slaughterhouses ... | 6 |
| Legal Proceedings, i.e. Summonses : 1 house closed. | |

HODDESDON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

January, 1900.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for 1899.

GENTLEMEN,

I have now the pleasure of presenting to you my third Annual Report.

Population.

The population of the town, estimated to the middle of 1899, was 4,728.

During the year 22 new houses were occupied.

The number of deaths registered was 80.

Corrections nil.

Corrected Death Rate 16·9 per 1000 of the population.

Birth Rate 25·5 ,, ,, ,,

Zymotic Death Rate ·8 ,, ,, ,,

Diarrhœa 1·5 ,, ,, ,,

Phthisis 1·5 ,, ,, ,,

Cancer ·2 ,, ,, ,,

Infant Mortality ... 155·7 ,, ,, births.

The Death Rate was higher than in 1898, but about the average for the whole of England and Wales.

The Birth Rate was about the same as the previous year, while the Infant Mortality has much increased.

Infant Mortality.

The Infant Mortality is much higher than it should be for a town of this description; out of 122 Births, 19 died under one year of age.

In large towns where factories exist and where mothers are engaged in work all day, leaving their children in incompetent hands, a high Infant Mortality always exists, but in rural towns where there are no such factories, this high Mortality should not occur.

Bottle-feeding and exposure are amongst the chief causes of this Mortality; Tuberculosis, Bronchitis, Premature Birth, Whooping Cough, Diarrhœa, etc., are the causes given in the Death Returns.

During the hot weather, Summer Diarrhœa was very prevalent throughout the County. This is no doubt spread through the medium of the food, bottle-fed infants being especially liable to contract the disease, as sufficient care is not taken to prevent the milk and infant food becoming contaminated. Much could be done in this direction, if parents would sterilize all milk by boiling and carefully attending to the cleaning of all bottles and utensils before and after using.

Zymotic Death Rate.

Ten deaths occurred from Zymotic or Infectious Disease, including six from Diarrhœa. They were :—

| | | | | | | |
|----------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----------|
| Typhoid Fever | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Whooping Cough | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| Diarrhœa | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6 |
| Erysipelas | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Total | | | | | | <hr/> 10 |

Notification of Infectious Disease.

Eighteen cases of Infectious Disease were notified during the year. They were :—

| | | | | | | |
|-----------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----------|
| Diphtheria | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Scarlet Fever | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| Typhoid Fever | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| Erysipelas | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 12 |
| Puerperal Fever | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Total | | | | | | <hr/> 18 |

Scarlet Fever.

Two cases notified and one removed to Hospital, and the disease did not spread.

Diphtheria.

Only one case notified and removed to Hospital.

Typhoid Fever.

Two cases notified, both occurred in the same house; two brothers who contracted the disease away from home: one patient died at home, the other was removed to Hospital and recovered.

Inspection of the Town.

The town has been regularly inspected, and 22 orders issued for Sanitary Amendments to houses and premises.

Water Supply.

The Water Supply to the town is under the control of a private company; the water is derived from a deep well in the chalk and pumped to a reservoir, and then delivered to the town.

There are still a few wells in use.

Four old houses were connected with the Public Supply during the year.

Housing of the Working Classes.

Two houses were condemned during the year and demolished without any legal proceedings.

Sanitary Work carried out during the Year.

The surface-water draining and making up of the three most important roads on the Rye Park Estate was the most important work, for the benefit of the public health, carried out since the Main Drainage System was introduced many years ago, for in consequence of the previous lack of any efficient system of surface drainage these roads, after every rain, were always in a terrible condition, and as many of the houses were built below the crown of the road, must have caused dampness; the roads also lowered to overcome this danger.

Beyond this, the system of surface-water drainage is one that well admits of any possible extension in that district in the future, as a valuable outface has been obtained under the New River and Railway into the Lea.

Sewer Extension.

Sewer in Brockett Road extended to admit of certain new buildings being connected with the public sewers.

Sewage Farm.

Rye grass has been the only crop grown, and the results, so far as the disposal of the sewage is concerned, have been more satisfactory than with mangold or with other crops.

During the year the Council had before them the question of providing some means for dealing with the increasing volume of sewage, and removing from the same some of the solids in suspension.

In May last your Surveyor submitted a detailed report on the Bacteria system, with plans and levels of the Farm, etc.

The result of these deliberations was that he was instructed to carry out, on a small scale, experimental works with a coarse grain Bacteria bed, and this he hopes to do in the course of a week or two.

During last year your Surveyor took several gaugings (extending over several days and at different periods) of the volume of sewage being discharged on to the Sewage Farm, and found that the Winter flow was 100,000 gallons per 24 hours, and the Summer flow 62,000 gallons during the same number of hours. These figures represent dry-weather flow; during rain the quantity of storm-water is enormous.

A very large leakage of subsoil water is taking place into the sewers.

Dust Collection.

The new system continues to work admirably, and no complaints of neglect occurred during the year.

The number of cube yards removed was 1,800.

Water Supply.

During the year four old houses were connected with the water companies' mains.

New Houses.

During the year 22 new houses were occupied.

Your Council will shortly be able to put into operation a new Bye-law, requiring all owners of new houses to obtain from the Surveyor a certificate of habitation before letting the same for occupation.

Slaughterhouses.

Steps are now being taken for the registration of all existing Slaughterhouses.

Dairies and Cowsheds.

As new regulations are being adopted, these premises are also being registered by the Council.

In three cases most satisfactory works have been carried out for the improvement of existing Cowsheds, etc.

Manure on Lea Banks.

This called for active measure during the Summer, and it is to be hoped the nuisance will not recur.

Works for the benefit of the Public Health, but more of an engineering than sanitary nature, that might be carried out during the year are, the extension of the sewer up the Hertford Road, and the making up and surface water-drainage of Duke Street, North Road, Belcher Road, and Roman Street.

Your Council has given instructions to prepare schemes for dealing with these matters, and have them now in hand.

Appended to this Report will be found Tables A and B of the Death and Sickness Returns, and a Report of the work done by the Sanitary Inspector during the year.

HODDESDON URBAN SANITARY DISTRICT.

Inspector's Report of the Sanitary Work completed in the year 1899.

SANITARY DISTRICTS.

| | TOTALS |
|---|--------|
| Complaints received during the year... .. | 7 |
| Houses, Premises, etc., inspected | 94 |

Results of Inspection.

Orders issued for Sanitary Amendments of Houses and Premises

23, all letters

| | |
|---|---|
| Houses, Premises, etc., Cleansed, Repaired, Whitewashed, etc. ... | 4 |
| Houses Disinfected after illness of an Infectious Character ... | 8 |

House Drains.

| | |
|--|----|
| Repaired, Cleansed, Trapped, etc. | 14 |
| Ventilated | 9 |

Privies and Water-closets.

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Repaired, etc. | 2 |
|-----------------------|---|

Dustbins.

| | |
|--------------------------------|---------|
| New provided | Several |
| Repaired, Covered, etc. | 1 |

Miscellaneous.

| | |
|---|----|
| Dust Removal: number of communications received and attended to.—Regularly and systematically removed; no complaints | |
| Removal of accumulations of Dung, Stagnant Water, Animal and other Refuse | 4 |
| Bakehouses regularly inspected ... | 6 |
| Licensed Cowsheds | 13 |
| Licensed Slaughterhouses | 7 |

TABLE OF DEATHS during the Year 1899 in the HODDESDON URBAN DISTRICT, classified according to Diseases, Ages, and Localities.

The subjoined numbers have also to be taken into account in judging of the above records of mortality.

[illegible]

B.

TABLE OF POPULATION, BIRTHS, and of NEW CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS, coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health, during the Year 1899, in the HODDESDON URBAN DISTRICT, classified according to Diseases, Ages, and Localities.

| NAME OF LOCALITIES. | POPULATION AT ALL AGES. | | Registered Births. | NEW CASES OF SICKNESS IN EACH LOCALITY COMING TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH. | | | | | | | | | | | NUMBER OF SUCH CASES REMOVED FROM THEIR HOMES IN THE SEVERAL LOCALITIES, FOR TREATMENT IN ISOLATION HOSPITAL. | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|--|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------|---------------|---------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------|---|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------|---------------|---------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------|-------------|
| | Last Census | Estimated to middle of 1899. | | Aged under 5 or over 5. | Smallpox. | Scarlatina. | Diphtheria. | Membranous Croup. | Typhus Fever. | Enteric or Typhoid Fever. | Continued Fever. | Relapsing Fever. | Puerperal Fever. | Cholera. | Erysipelas. | Smallpox. | Scarlatina. | Diphtheria. | Membranous Croup. | Typhus Fever. | Enteric or Typhoid Fever. | Continued Fever. | Relapsing Fever. | Puerperal Fever. | Cholera. | Erysipelas. |
| Hoddesdon | 4053 | 4728 | 122 | Under 5 5 upwds. | ... ... | 1 1 | 1 ... | ... ... | ... ... | ... 2 | ... ... | ... ... | ... 1 | ... ... | ... 12 | ... ... | 1 1 | 1 ... | ... ... | ... ... | ... 1 | ... ... | ... ... | ... ... | ... ... | ... ... |
| TOTALS | 4053 | 4728 | 122 | Under 5 5 upwds. | ... ... | 1 1 | 1 ... | ... ... | ... ... | ... 2 | ... ... | ... ... | ... 1 | ... ... | ... 12 | ... ... | 1 1 | 1 ... | ... ... | ... ... | ... 1 | ... ... | ... ... | ... ... | ... ... | ... ... |

HERTFORD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

January, 1900.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for 1899.

GENTLEMEN,

I have now the pleasure of presenting to you my third Annual Report.

Population.

The population of the District, estimated to the middle of 1899, was 8,570.

Number of Deaths registered ... 118.

Corrections 7.

Corrected Death Rate 14·5 per 1000 of the population.

Birth Rate 21·1 ,, ,, ,,

Zymotic Death Rate ·1 ,, ,, ,,

Diarrhœa ·7 ,, ,, ,,

Phthisis ·5 ,, ,, ,,

Cancer ·3 ,, ,, ,,

Infant Mortality ... 148·6 ,, ,, births.

The Death Rate is slightly higher than last year; this is accounted for by the large number of infants dying under 1 year of age.

The Birth Rate is about the same.

The Zymotic Death Rate is considerably lower than in 1898.

Infant Mortality.

This is very much higher than in 1898; in the large villages, viz., Datchworth, Walkern, Watton, and Hertford Heath, the Infant Mortality is most noticeable.

During the hot Summer months children suffered from Summer Diarrhœa; this disease is spread by infected milk and infant food, the milk and food being allowed to remain in dirty bottles and utensils, and thus become polluted, soon causing Diarrhœa, which is very fatal to young infants.

All infant food should be thoroughly sterilized by boiling or steaming, and all bottles carefully steamed or boiled before and after being used.

The other causes of this Infant Mortality are given as Bronchitis, Premature Birth, Convulsions, etc.

Deaths from Infectious Disease.

Only one death occurred from Infectious Disease, viz.:—

Measles 1 death.

No death occurred from any of the notifiable diseases.

Six deaths were due to Diarrhœa.

Notification of Infectious Disease.

Ten cases of Infectious Disease were notified compared with 15 in the previous year. They were:—

| | | | |
|---------------|-----|-----|------------------------|
| Scarlet Fever | ... | ... | 1 at Hertingfordbury. |
| „ | ... | ... | 1 at St. John's Rural. |
| „ | ... | ... | 4 at Sacombe. |
| Diphtheria | ... | ... | 1 at St. John's Rural. |
| „ | ... | ... | 1 at Tewin. |
| „ | ... | ... | 1 at Brickendon. |
| Erysipelas | ... | ... | 1 at Walkern. |
| <hr/> | | | |
| Total | ... | ... | 10 |

Nine of these cases were removed to Hospital ; no deaths occurred, and no further case occurred in the same house after removal of the patient.

Typhoid Fever.

No case of this disease occurred in the District.

Measles and Whooping Cough.

These diseases were prevalent at Waterford, Birch Green, and Bramfield ; the schools were closed in consequence.

Inspection of the District.

The whole of the District has been systematically inspected, and reports made to your Council monthly.

Bye-laws.

Your Council have adopted Bye-laws for new posts and buildings, which will be put in force when sanctioned by the Local Government Board.

Dairies and Cowsheds.

Your Council have adopted the New Regulations with reference to the Dairies and Cowsheds, which give you a better control over the milk supply, and your officer larger powers of inspection of cows.

Water Supply.

During the year you have had to consider complaints as to deficient water supplies.

The scheme for supplying Datchworth with water is, I hope, only in abeyance; something will have to be done in this direction during the coming year.

I would seriously urge upon your Council the necessity of opposing any proposed further depletion of the natural water supply, and every means in your power should be adopted to prevent the water of this District being abstracted.

I must congratulate the Council on the sanitary improvements which have taken place during the year.

The Bayford Water Supply has been completed and is in working order.

The new Bye-laws have been adopted.

The New Regulations for a better control of Milk Supply have been adopted.

The drainage of Watton, Hertford Heath, Walkern, and Little Berkhamstead has received your careful attention, and progress can be reported in each instance.

Notices have been served on many owners of property, the houses of which were reported as unfit for habitation, and some material alterations have been made.

I trust that the coming year will be equally fruitful, and the matters which will require your attention are Water Supplies for Datchworth, Little Berkhamstead, Hertford Heath, and Walkern, and the Sewage Disposal at Little Berkhamstead and Walkern; also the houses of the working classes, and some system of scavenging for the larger and more populous villages.

Little Berkhamstead Sewage.

This has been before your Council on many occasions, with the result that it has been decided to hold a Local Government Board Inquiry to sanction the borrowing of money to carry out a suitable scheme.

I have included in this report a short sketch of the condition of each village with regard to the Drainage, Water Supply, Refuse Disposal, and condition of the Houses, also Tables A and B of the Death and Sickness Returns and cases of Infectious Disease notified and removed to Hospital.

I include in this report a short sketch of the condition of each village.

Condition of the District.

ASTON.

Water Supply.—From spring and shallow wells.

Drainage.—Into ditch, some houses without drains.

Occupation of Inhabitants.—Agricultural.

Disposal of Refuse.—Removed by occupiers.

BAYFORD.

Water Supply.—From pond.

Drainage.—Into cesspools and ditches.

Disposal of Refuse.—Removed by occupiers.

Occupation of Inhabitants.—Agricultural.

The work for providing this village with a good supply of water from a deep well, which will be pumped and delivered in iron pipes, has been completed and in working order. An oil engine has been fixed as an auxiliary to the turbine.

BENNINGTON.

Water Supply.—Rain-water tanks, wells, and a tap supplied by Dr. Parker from his private waterworks.

Drainage.—Into cesspools and ditches.

Disposal of Refuse.—By inhabitants.

Occupation of Inhabitants.—Agricultural.

Several houses have been reported as dilapidated and overcrowded, and without water.

BRAMFIELD.

Water Supply.—From well on green.

Drainage.—Into ditches.

Disposal of Refuse.—Removed by occupiers.

Occupation of Inhabitants.—Agricultural.

Disease.—Measles.

BRICKENDON.

Water Supply.—Wells and pond.

Drainage.—Into cesspools and ditches.

Disposal of Refuse.—Removed by occupiers.

Occupation of Inhabitants.—Agricultural.

DATCHWORTH.

Water Supply.—Rain-water tanks, ponds, and wells, very unsatisfactory. A better supply should be provided.

Drainage.—Into cesspools, some of which are close to the rain-water tanks.

Disposal of Refuse.—Removed by occupiers.

HERTINGFORDBURY.

Water Supply.—Shallow wells.

Drainage.—Into cesspools and river.

The Drainage and Refuse Disposal and Water Supply of this village require attention. The condition, however, still remains much the same as last year, the sewage discharging into cesspits with overflow into the river.

LITTLE AMWELL AND HERTFORD HEATH.

Water Supply.—Pumped from deep well into tanks.

Drainage.—Pipe sewers discharging over a meadow for irrigation purposes; Bacteria Filters have been constructed, and the same is in a better condition.

Disposal of Refuse.—Removed by occupiers.

Occupation of Inhabitants.—Agricultural, laundries, and brick-makers.

LITTLE BERKHAMPSTEAD.

Water Supply.—Shallow well and spring; some of the wells have completely failed. A better supply for the whole village should be provided.

Drainage.—Pipe sewer, discharging into watercourse; steps are being taken to improve the outfall of this sewer by filtration, discharging it over a meadow for irrigation purposes. An automatic flushing tank and ventilating shaft have just been fixed at the head of this sewer. A scheme for the disposal of the sewage has been adopted, and is awaiting inquiry by the Local Government Board.

Disposal of Refuse.—Removed by occupiers.

Occupation of Inhabitants.—Agricultural.

SACOMBE.

Water Supply.—From shallow wells.

Drainage.—Into cesspools and ditches.

Disposal of Refuse.—Removed by occupiers.

Occupation of Inhabitants.—Agricultural.

Disease.—Three cases of Scarlet Fever.

TEWIN.

Water Supply.—From two wells.

Drainage.—Lower Green by pipe sewer, Upper Green into cesspools and ditches.

Disposal of Refuse.—Removed by occupiers.

Occupation of Inhabitants.—Agricultural.

WATTON.

Water Supply.—From wells.

Drainage.—One portion into a cesspool, the other into the river. Certain improvements have been made as to trapping and ventilation.

Disposal of Refuse.—Removed by occupiers.

Occupation of Inhabitants.—Chiefly agricultural, tradesmen.

Some system of scavenging should be adopted.

WALKERN.

Water Supply.—Shallow wells, chiefly surface-water; very unsatisfactory.

Drainage.—Pipe sewers, discharging over a small piece of ground, which is inadequate for the amount of sewage going over it. Overflow from the same discharging into stream. This is now being remedied.

Disposal of Refuse.—Removed by occupiers.

Some system of scavenging should be adopted.

Appended to this report is a statement of the work done by the Inspector; also tables giving the Death and Sickness Returns and cases of Infectious Disease reported and removed to Hospital.

Extra Work carried out during the year 1899.

At Walkern a portion of the sewer was found to be defective, and taken up and relaid at a cost of £300. A large flushing tank has been constructed at the head of the sewer.

At Little Amwell £125 has been spent in improving the sewer outfall works by constructing Bacteria Filters, and a portion of the sewer has been taken up and relaid at a cost of £27.

At Bayford additional work has been done to the Pumping Station, an oil engine fixed, etc., at a cost of £160, which makes the waterworks as perfect as possible.

At Watton all the street gullies have been trapped, and ventilating shafts fixed at a cost of £23 10s.

Seventeen new houses have been erected in the District.

Two old cowsheds have been pulled down and new ones erected, and drainage improvements carried out in the yards and cleansing houses.

J. W. RIGGS,
Surveyor and Inspector.

B.

TABLE OF POPULATION, BIRTHS, and of NEW CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS,
coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health, during the year 1899, in the HERTFORD RURAL DISTRICT;
classified according to Diseases, Ages, and Localities.

| NAMES OF LOCALITIES. | POPULATION AT ALL AGES. | | Registered Births. | NEW CASES OF SICKNESS IN EACH LOCALITY COMING TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH. | | | | | | | | | | | | NUMBER OF SUCH CASES REMOVED FROM THEIR HOMES IN THE SEVERAL LOCALITIES, FOR TREATMENT IN ISOLATION HOSPITAL. | | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|--|-----------|-------------|-------------|-------------------|---------------|---------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|----------|-------------|---|-------------|-------------|-------------------|---------------|---------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|----------|-------------|
| | Last Census | Estimated to middle of 1899. | | Aged under 5 or over 5. | Smallpox. | Scarlatina. | Diphtheria. | Membranous Croup. | Typhus Fever. | Enteric or Typhoid Fever. | Continued Fever. | Relapsing Fever. | Puerperal Fever. | Cholera. | Erysipelas. | Smallpox. | Scarlatina. | Diphtheria. | Membranous Croup. | Typhus Fever. | Enteric or Typhoid Fever. | Continued Fever. | Relapsing Fever. | Puerperal Fever. | Cholera. | Erysipelas. |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Little Amwell | 815 | ... | 20 | Under 5 | .. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| Hertford Heath | | | | 5 upwds. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Waterford | 240 | ... | ... | Under 5 | .. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| Aston | 541 | ... | 12 | 5 upwds. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| Bengeo Rural | 546 | ... | 7 | Under 5 | .. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| Bramfield | 213 | ... | 4 | 5 upwds. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| Little Berkhamstead | 430 | ... | 7 | Under 5 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| St. Andrew's Rural | 93 | ... | ... | 5 upwds. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| Bayford | 369 | ... | 5 | Under 5 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| Stapleford | 216 | ... | 6 | 5 upwds. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| Union Workhouse | ... | ... | ... | Under 5 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| Walkern | 849 | ... | 22 | 5 upwds. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| Hertingfordbury | 797 | ... | 14 | Under 5 | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| St. John's Rural | 235 | ... | 4 | 5 upwds. | ... | 1 | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| Tewin | 350 | ... | 14 | Under 5 | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| Sacombe | 250 | ... | 4 | 5 upwds. | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| Brickendon | 163 | ... | 6 | 5 upwds. | ... | 3 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| Datchworth | 672 | ... | 26 | Under 5 | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| Burnham Green | | | | 5 upwds. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Bennington | 627 | ... | 10 | Under 5 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| Watton | 807 | ... | 15 | 5 upwds. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| New Knebworth | ... | ... | .. | Under 5 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| | | | | 5 upwds. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| Totals | 8167 | 8570 | 176 | Under 5 | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| | | | | 5 upwds. | ... | 5 | 3 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | 5 | 2 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | |

**Summary of Work done through the Sanitary Inspector
in the Rural Sanitary District of Hertford during
the year ended December 31st, 1899.**

| PARTICULARS. | TOTAL NUMBER FOR YEAR. | RESULT OF INSPECTION, ETC. |
|--|------------------------------|---|
| Complaints received | 10 | |
| Nuisances detected without complaint | 31 | |
| Nuisances abated | 41 | |
| Notices served... .. | 17 | |
| Cottages inspected | 288 | |
| Slaughterhouses inspected | 2 | |
| Bakehouses inspected... .. | 6 | One bakehouse rebuilt |
| Dairies and milk-shops inspected } | 48 | { 2 dairies cleansed and limewashed 2 cowsheds rebuilt, 3 limewashed |
| Cowsheds inspected | | |
| Workshops inspected | 8 | 2 laundries cleansed and lime- washed, 1 new floor |
| Filthy houses cleansed, sec. 46 "Public Health Act, 1875"... .. | 2 | |
| Houses disinfected | 3 | |
| Overcrowding abated | 5 | |
| Houses placed in habitable repair ... | 11 | |
| Houses erected or rebuilt for which Water "Certificates" were applied | 15 | |
| "Certificates" granted | 15 | |
| Wells sunk or improved supplies of water afforded | 1 | At Bayford |
| Wells cleansed or repaired | 6 | |
| Wells closed | 1 | |
| Houses connected with sewers ... | 6 | |
| Earth, pail, or improved privies con- structed, or existing privies altered | 5 | |
| Animals improperly kept removed ... | 8 | |
| Samples of water taken for analysis ... | 5 | |

WARE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

January, 1900.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for 1899.

GENTLEMEN,

I have now the pleasure of presenting to you my third Annual Report.

Population.

The population of the whole District, estimated to the middle of 1899, is 10,500.

| | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|----|------|-----------------------------|-----|---------|
| Number of Deaths registered | .. | 109. | | | |
| Corrections | .. | .. | .. | 12. | |
| Corrected Death Rate | | 11.5 | per 1000 of the population. | | |
| Birth Rate | .. | .. | 22.1 | „ | „ |
| Zymotic Death Rate | .. | .. | .2 | „ | „ |
| Diarrhœa | .. | .. | .5 | „ | „ |
| Phthisis | .. | .. | .4 | „ | „ |
| Cancer | .. | .. | .4 | „ | „ |
| Infant Mortality | .. | 86.2 | „ | „ | births. |

These figures compare very favourably with those of preceding years.

The Death Rate is 1 per 1000 higher, but the Birth Rate has also increased.

The Infant Mortality is slightly higher, while the Zymotic Death Rate has decreased.

Deaths from Zymotic Disease.

Three deaths occurred from Zymotic Disease, compared with six in 1898. They were:—

| | | |
|-----------------|---|--|
| Typhoid Fever.. | 1 | at St. Margarets (imported from London). |
| Measles.. | 1 | at Stanstead. |
| Whooping Cough | 1 | at Wormley. |

Diarrhœa.

Six deaths occurred from Diarrhœa.

Notification of Infectious Disease.

Nineteen cases were notified. They were :—

| | | | | |
|---------------|----|----|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Scarlet Fever | .. | .. | 1 at Stanstead. | |
| „ | .. | .. | 1 at Gilston. | |
| „ | .. | .. | 1 at Eastwick. | |
| „ | .. | .. | 1 at Great Munden. | |
| Diphtheria | .. | .. | 3 at Standon. | |
| „ | .. | .. | 1 at Widford. | |
| „ | .. | .. | 2 at Wareside. | |
| Typhoid Fever | .. | .. | 1 at Wadesmill | } Traced to outside source. |
| „ | .. | .. | 1 at Gilston | |
| „ | .. | .. | 1 at St. Margarets | |
| „ | .. | .. | 5 at Mount Street, Gt. Amwell. | |
| Erysipelas | .. | .. | 1 at Great Amwell. | |
| „ | .. | .. | 2 at Stanstead. | |
| „ | .. | .. | 2 at Standon. | |
| „ | .. | .. | 1 at Little Munden. | |
| „ | .. | .. | 1 at Wareside. | |

All the cases of Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever were removed to Hospital with one exception.

Two cases of Typhoid were removed to the Hospital and three to the Infirmary, Hertford.

Measles and Whooping Cough.

These diseases appeared during the year, and schools were closed in consequence in Stanstead, Standon, and Widford.

Scarlet Fever.

This disease was of a mild form, and did not spread in any house from which a case had been removed.

Diphtheria.

Six cases notified and removed to Hospital ; no deaths and no further spread in the houses from which they were removed.

Typhoid Fever.

Three out of the eight cases were traced to London, the patients coming home ill and developing the disease.

Five cases occurred in the neighbourhood of Mount Street, Ware, just outside the Urban District boundary.

These houses in which the disease appeared had only been provided with the town water a few weeks, the previous supply being from shallow wells. I reported to you on the outbreak as follows:—

“I would advise your Council to ask the owners of these cottages in Mount Street to provide w.c.’s, and connect with the sewers.

“I do not consider that the garden ground is sufficient to receive all the excreta from the inhabitants of these houses.

“The existing pail closets are not emptied regularly, and the excreta is allowed to accumulate near the houses.

“This is a very populous neighbourhood, more Urban than Rural, and one which requires the application of more stringent bye-laws with regard to the removal of refuse, etc.”

Water Supply.

During the year I had occasion to report to you on the Water Supply in the villages, and your Council have had much difficulty in dealing with this question.

Your Council, however, have on several occasions provided a supply from public wells, and under Section 51, Public Health Act, 1875, any Rural Authority may dig wells and supply water.

I think if the Council, in future, acted on this Section they might overcome the difficulty of supplying water in many instances.

In my Annual Reports for 1897 and 1898 I went fully into this matter and presented a Report on the depletion of the wells in this District by the continuous pumping of the New River Company.

I would seriously urge upon the Council the necessity for opposing any scheme which would still further deplete the District of its natural supply.

Drainage and Sewage Disposal.

I have treated of this in my sketch of the condition of each village in the District with regard to water supply, drainage, disposal of refuse, housing of the working classes, prevalence of disease, improvements carried out and improvements required.

· Inspection of the District.

The District has been systematically inspected, and reports made at each meeting of your Council.

Housing of the Working Classes.

Notices have been served under "The Housing of the Working Classes Act," and legal proceedings taken in one instance; however, the order given by the Magistrates has not been carried into effect, and the house which was condemned as unfit for habitation still remains inhabited, the tenant refusing to obey the order of the Court.

Scavenging.

I would again urge the necessity for adopting a system of scavenging in Stanstead Abbots, Wormley, and Broxbourne.

Dairies and Cowsheds.

Your Council has adopted the New Regulation for the better control of the Milk Supply, which gives your officer greater power of inspection.

I include in this Report a sketch of the condition of each village and what is required to be done, also Tables A and B of the Death and Sickness Returns, and cases of Infectious Disease removed to Hospital.

GREAT AMWELL.

Divided into three portions.

1. HERTFORD HEATH.

Water Supply.—This was very low again during the Summer. A reservoir has been erected, and water pumped from St. Margarets to supply Haileybury College.

Drainage.—The sewer has been regularly flushed and attended to.

2. THE MOUNT.

Water is supplied by the New River Company, and the sewer is attended to privately.

3. LONDON ROAD AND MOUNT STREET.

Five cases of Typhoid Fever.

Water Supply.—The water has been laid on from the main to a number of cottages in this part during the year.

Drainage.—The sewer has been improved by abolishing the catchpit and improving the flushing arrangements. The pail closets still are a nuisance in Mount Street, through inattention, and the need of a system of scavenging is evident. (See report of Typhoid Fever in Mount Street, Ware Rural.)

BROXBOURNE.

The sewer is in good working order, and is regularly flushed. The connections with the water main are increasing.

Water Supply.—Wells.

Drainage.—Sewer discharging on to Sewage Farm ; some earth-closets. The sewer has been regularly flushed and attended to, and the tanks at the Sewage Farm kept in working order. Some improvements are necessary on the Sewage Farm.

Refuse Disposal.—Ashes, etc., emptied by occupiers ; should be a system of scavenging.

Occupation of Inhabitants.—Residential, agricultural, and railway men.

Sanitary Improvements required.—More connections with the water main.

Cowsheds.—Kept in fair condition.

EASTWICK.

A small village.

Water Supply.—By tap from spring belonging to Mr. Bowlby.

Refuse Disposal.—By occupiers. An improvement has been made in the village by converting the privy pits into earth-closets.

Occupation of Inhabitants.—Agricultural.

A great improvement has been made in this village. A sewer taking the whole of the slop-water has been laid, and is attended to regularly by the owner of the property. No sewage matter is allowed to discharge into the roadside ditch as it previously has done. One case of Scarlet Fever.

GILSTON.

Water Supply.—From wells.

Drainage.—Into ditch ; some cesspits.

Refuse Disposal.—Removed by occupiers. Closet accommodation partly buckets, some privy vaults.

The supply of cottages in Gilston and Eastwick is very limited, more are badly needed.

The slop-water drain from various cottages, which discharged into the brook, has been abolished, and proper drainage substituted.

One case of Scarlet Fever and one of Typhoid Fever.

HUNSDON.

The sewer continues to work fairly well, but the effluent from the filter varies.

Water Supply.—During the recent Summer a number of wells were dry, and one portion of the village very badly off for water. Reports have been made to your Council on this question.

Drainage.—Sewer for slop-water which discharges into a filter, and has effluent into ditch.

Refuse Disposal.—Ashes, etc., emptied by occupiers.

Closets.—The greater part earth-closets.

Sanitary Improvements required.—Privy pits abolished, and some dilapidated houses closed.

Cowsheds.—Good.

GREAT MUNDEN.

Water Supply.—The deep well at Nasty was during the Summer the only means of supply for this portion of the village. It is now proposed to improve this well by fixing a pump and abolishing the windlass and chain.

The houses occupied by the labourers are very poor.

Drainage.—Into ditch.

Refuse Disposal.—By occupiers, the greater part pails.

Occupation of Inhabitants.—Agricultural.

Sanitary Improvements required.—A better class of cottages with modern sanitation. The cottage property here and at Levens Green is very poor.

The water supply at Stockholds is very bad.

One case of Scarlet Fever.

LITTLE MUNDEN.

The sanitary condition of this village has improved; new drains have been laid, and dry pail closets substituted for the offensive privy pits.

Water Supply.—Deep wells (public).

Drainage.—Some improvements are necessary now to make the ditch through Dane End sanitary.

Refuse Disposal.—Earth-closets emptied by occupiers; improvements have been made by converting old privy pits into earth-closets.

Occupation of Inhabitants.—Agricultural.

Cowsheds.—Kept clean.

HAULTWICK, lying between Great Munden and Little Munden, has a deep well.

ST. MARGARETS.

Water Supply.—During the Summer nearly all the wells were drained by the New River Company. A main has been laid from the Pumping Station here to Haileybury.

Drainage.—The drainage of various properties is being improved, and new drains laid.

Refuse Disposal.—Earth-closets emptied by occupiers.

Occupation of Inhabitants.—Agricultural.

Disease.—One case of typhoid fever, imported.

Cowsheds and Dairies.—Very good.

This is a very clean little parish, and the cottages are generally of a more modern type than in some of the parishes.

Complaints respecting the deposit of manure on the river bank were made, and the owner requested to prevent the nuisance recurring.

STANDON includes part of Puckeridge, Colliers End, High Cross, and Wadesmill.

STANDON.

The sanitary condition of this village has improved. There is still need, as in Puckeridge and the other large villages, of a better means for the disposal of house refuse.

Water Supply.—Wells.

Occupation of Inhabitants.—Agricultural.

An improvement would be made by pulling down some very old cottages near the mill.

Three cases of Diphtheria.

PUCKERIDGE.

The street drains in Puckeridge have been trapped and ventilated, and the ditch taking the effluent is being cleaned out and deepened. The washings from the Brewery discharge into this ditch and create a great nuisance, which should be abated.

Drains have been trapped and privy pits turned into dry earth-closets.

Water Supply.—Wells.

Occupation of Inhabitants.—Agricultural.

COLLIERS END.

The cottage property is of a very poor class, and better houses are required.

Water Supply.—Wells.

Drainage.—Into ditch ; improvements have been made.

Refuse Disposal.—Pail closets emptied by occupiers ; some few privy vaults.

HIGH CROSS.

Water Supply.—Deep well.

Drainage.—Into ditch.

Refuse Disposal.—Pail closets emptied by occupiers.

The cottages here are of a very inferior order.

OLD HALL GREEN.

St. Edmund's College, drained into cesspits, together with cottages belonging to the College.

HUGHES GREEN.

Water Supply.—Wells.

Drainage.—None.

Refuse Disposal.—Emptied by occupiers.

WADESMILL.

The slop-water drain has been further improved. The scavenging of this portion of Standon is carried out by the Authority, and is very satisfactory.

Water Supply.—Wells.

STANSTEAD ABBOTTS.

A great number of new connections have been made with the sewer during the past year, and good modern drainage provided for a large number of houses. There are still a few badly drained houses which the Authority are dealing with, and where new modern systems are necessary. Several new houses have been built, and other property improved.

Water Supply.—Wells.

Refuse Disposal.—Ashes and the contents of some earth-closets emptied on to garden by the occupiers. A system of scavenging is needed, as in some cases there are no gardens, and then ashes are thrown in heaps in small backyards.

A horse-slaughterer has premises in the village, but conducts the business without nuisance generally. Frequent inspections are made here.

Pleasure garden at Rye House.

One portion of Rye House has been redrained. The work must continue, as the drainage of the larger portion of the premises discharges into a ditch which communicates with the River Lea.

One case of Scarlet Fever.

THUNDRIDGE.

The sewage system and scavenging still work well and give satisfaction.

Water Supply.—From wells.

Occupation of Inhabitants.—Agricultural.

Improvements carried out.—Some more cottages have been erected, and improvements to cowkeepers' premises.

No case of infectious disease.

WARESIDE.

The drainage of this village is bad, and the cottage property very old and in a very poor condition. New cottages are needed badly. Some dilapidated cottages have been repaired, and others are under repair.

Water Supply.—From wells; some have been cleaned out and deepened.

Occupation of Inhabitants.—Agricultural.

Two cases of Diphtheria, removed to Hospital.

WIDFORD.

The pump in Nether Street continues to supply the inhabitants of this part with water. Some improvements have been made with respect to drainage and also the general sanitary condition of the cottages.

Refuse Disposal.—Privy pits and earth-closets emptied by occupiers.

One case of Diphtheria, removed to Hospital.

WORMLEY.

The water main has been extended in Macer Lane, and a number of new connections made during the year. The sewer and Sewage Farm continue to work satisfactorily.

Refuse Disposal.—By occupiers; a scavenger should be employed. The Schools have been enlarged and connected with the sewer. No case of infectious disease notified.

TABLE OF DEATHS during the Year 1899 in the WARE RURAL DISTRICT, classified according to Diseases, Ages, and Localities.

| NAMES OF LOCALITIES. | MORTALITY FROM ALL CAUSES, AT SUBJOINED AGES. | | | | | | | MORTALITY FROM SUBJOINED CAUSES, DISTINGUISHING DEATHS OF CHILDREN UNDER FIVE YEARS OF AGE. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--|---------------|----------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|--|-----------|-------------|-------------|-------------------|---------------|---------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|----------|-------------|----------|-----------------|-------------------------|------------------|-----------|------------------------------------|----------------|---------|-----------|---------------------|--------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| | At all ages. | Under 1 year. | 1 and under 5. | 5 and under 15. | 15 and under 25. | 25 and under 65. | 65 and upwards. | | Smallpox. | Scarlatina. | Diphtheria. | Membranous Croup. | Typhus Fever. | Enteric or Typhoid Fever. | Continued Fever. | Relapsing Fever. | Puerperal Fever. | Cholera. | Erysipelas. | Measles. | Whooping Cough. | Diarrhea and Dysentery. | Rheumatic Fever. | Phthisis. | Bronchitis, Pneumonia, & Pleurisy. | Heart Disease. | Cancer. | Injuries. | All other Diseases. | Total. | | | | | | |
| Wormley | 8 | 3 | 3 | ... | ... | 2 | ... | Under 5 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | 2 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 | 6 | | | | | |
| Broxbourne | 11 | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 4 | 6 | 5 upwds. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 | 2 | | | | | |
| Great Amwell | 14 | 1 | 2 | 1 | ... | 3 | 7 | 5 upwds. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 | 3 | | | | | |
| Stanstead Abbots... | 20 | 5 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 7 | 3 | 5 upwds. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | 1 | ... | 4 | 1 | ... | 2 | 4 | 4 | 8 | | | | | |
| St. Margarets | 2 | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | 1 | 5 upwds. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | | | | | |
| Hunsdon | 6 | 2 | ... | ... | ... | 3 | 1 | 5 upwds. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | 2 | 1 | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 2 | | | | | |
| Eastwick | 3 | 2 | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | 5 upwds. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 | | | | | |
| Gilston | 4 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 | 2 | 5 upwds. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | | | | | |
| Widford | 4 | ... | ... | 2 | ... | 1 | 1 | 5 upwds. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 | 4 | | | | |
| Ware and Wareside | 3 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 2 | 5 upwds. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 2 | ... | 3 | | | | | |
| Thundridge | 1 | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | 5 upwds. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | | | | | |
| Little Munden | 7 | 2 | 1 | ... | ... | 1 | 3 | 5 upwds. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 | 3 | | | | | |
| Great Munden | 8 | 3 | 2 | ... | ... | 1 | 2 | 5 upwds. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5 | 5 | | | | | |
| Standon | 14 | 2 | ... | 1 | 1 | 7 | 3 | 5 upwds. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | 3 | ... | ... | ... | 8 | 12 | | | | |
| Puckeridge... | | | | | | | | 5 upwds. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 3 |
| Colliers End | | | | | | | | 5 upwds. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Grand Totals | 109 | 20 | 11 | 6 | 4 | 35 | 33 | Under 5 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 | 4 | ... | 5 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 20 | 31 | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | 5 upwds. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 | 1 | 5 | 13 | 8 | 5 | 7 | 36 | 78 | | | | | | |

The subjoined numbers have also to be taken into account in judging of the above records of mortality.

[illegible]

B.

TABLE OF POPULATION, BIRTHS, and of NEW CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS,
coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health, during the year 1899, in the WARE RURAL DISTRICT;
classified according to Diseases, Ages, and Localities.

| NAME OF LOCALITIES. | POPULATION AT ALL AGES. | | Registered Births. | NEW CASES OF SICKNESS IN EACH LOCALITY COMING TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH. | | | | | | | | | | | NUMBER OF SUCH CASES REMOVED FROM THEIR HOMES IN THE SEVERAL LOCALITIES, FOR TREATMENT IN ISOLATION HOSPITAL. | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|-------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|--|-----------|-------------|-------------|-------------------|---------------|---------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|----------|---|-----------|-------------|-------------|-------------------|---------------|---------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|----------|-------------|
| | Last Census | Estimated to middle of 1899. | | Aged under 5 or over 5. | Smallpox. | Scarlatina. | Diphtheria. | Membranous Group. | Typhus Fever. | Enteric or Typhoid Fever. | Continued Fever. | Relapsing Fever. | Puerperal Fever. | Cholera. | Erysipelas. | Smallpox. | Scarlatina. | Diphtheria. | Membranous Group. | Typhus Fever. | Enteric or Typhoid Fever. | Continued Fever. | Relapsing Fever. | Puerperal Fever. | Cholera. | Erysipelas. |
| Great Amwell and part of Hertford Heath | 1975 | ... | 20 | Under 5 5 upwds. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Stanstead Abbots... | 1322 | ... | 36 | Under 5 5 upwds. | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Standon ... | ... | ... | 50 | Under 5 5 upwds. | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Puckeridge .. | ... | ... | ... | Under 5 5 upwds. | ... | ... | 2 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Wadesmill ... | ... | ... | 1 | Under 5 5 upwds. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Colliers End ... | ... | ... | ... | Under 5 5 upwds. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Old Hall Green ... | ... | ... | ... | Under 5 5 upwds. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| High Cross... | ... | ... | ... | Under 5 5 upwds. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Gilston ... | 260 | ... | 6 | Under 5 5 upwds. | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Little Munden ... | 378 | ... | 12 | Under 5 5 upwds. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Widford ... | 461 | ... | 13 | Under 5 5 upwds. | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| St. Margarets ... | 139 | ... | 2 | Under 5 5 upwds. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Ware and Wareside ... | 450 | ... | 5 | Under 5 5 upwds. | ... | ... | 2 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | 2 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Hunsdon ... | 532 | ... | 9 | Under 5 5 upwds. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Wormley ... | 871 | ... | 27 | Under 5 5 upwds. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Great Munden ... | 476 | ... | 14 | Under 5 5 upwds. | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Broxbourne... | 776 | ... | 7 | Under 5 5 upwds. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Eastwick ... | 71 | ... | 4 | Under 5 5 upwds. | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Thundridge ... | 450 | ... | ... | Under 5 5 upwds. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Totals .. | 10314 | 10500 | 232 | Under 5 5 upwds. | ... | 4 | 5 | ... | ... | 8 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 7 | ... | 3 | 6 | ... | 4 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |

WARE RURAL SANITARY DISTRICT.

Inspector's Report of the Sanitary Work completed in the year 1899.

SANITARY DISTRICTS.

| | TOTALS |
|--|--------|
| Complaints received during the year | 54 |
| Houses, Premises, etc., inspected, and number of Re-inspections of Houses, Premises, etc. | 430 |
| <i>Results of Inspection.</i> | |
| Orders issued for Sanitary Amendments of Houses and Premises | 64 |
| Houses, Premises, etc., Cleansed, Repaired, Whitewashed, etc. .. | 31 |
| Houses Disinfected after illness of an Infectious character .. | 12 |
| <i>House Drains.</i> | |
| Repaired, Cleansed, Trapped, etc. | 65 |
| Ventilated | 23 |
| <i>Privies and Water-closets.</i> | |
| Repaired, etc. | 9 |
| Supplied with Water | 29 |
| New provided (dry earth) | 34 |
| <i>Dustbins.</i> | |
| New provided | 9 |
| Repaired, Covered, etc. | 5 |
| <i>Water Supply.</i> | |
| Water laid on to Houses from the Main | 46 |
| <i>Miscellaneous.</i> | |
| Removal of accumulations of Dung, Stagnant Water, Animal and other refuse | 43 |
| Animals Removed, being improperly kept | 5 |
| Bakehouses regularly inspected .. | 30 |
| Licensed Cowsheds „ .. | 29 |
| Licensed Slaughterhouses „ .. | 25 |
| Legal Proceedings, i.e. Summonses | 1 |

BUNTINGFORD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

February, 1900.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for 1899.

GENTLEMEN,

I have now the pleasure of presenting to you my third Annual Report.

Population.

The population of the whole District, estimated to the middle of 1899, was 5,405.

Number of Deaths registered, 80.

Corrections .. 0.

Corrected Death Rate 14·8 per 1000 of the population.

Birth Rate 19·9 „ „ „

Zymotic Death Rate 5 „ „ „

Diarrhœa 3 „ „ „

Phthisis 5 „ „ „

Cancer 5 „ „ „

Infant Mortality .. 92·6 „ „ births.

The Death Rate is slightly less than last year, while the Birth Rate has also diminished.

The Death Rate from Zymotic Disease is much less.

The Infant Mortality is higher than in 1898.

Deaths from Infectious Disease.

Three deaths occurred from Infectious Disease. They were:—

Diphtheria 1 at Great Hormead.

Membranous Croup .. 1 at Meesden.

Whooping Cough 1 at West Mill.

Total .. 3

Notification of Infectious Disease.

Nineteen cases were notified. They were:—

Scarlet Fever 3 at Buntingford.

„ 4 at Cottered.

„ 1 at West Mill.

„ 2 at Aspenden.

| | | | |
|---------------|----|----|---------------------|
| Diphtheria | .. | .. | 4 at Anstey. |
| „ | .. | .. | 1 at Buntingford. |
| „ | .. | .. | 1 at Wyddial. |
| „ | .. | .. | 1 at Great Hormead. |
| Typhoid Fever | .. | .. | 1 at Meesden. |
| „ | .. | .. | 1 at Anstey. |
| Total | | | 19 |

Four of these cases were removed to the Hertford and Ware Joint Hospital, viz. one case of Scarlet Fever and three cases of Diphtheria.

Diphtheria.

The houses were disinfected, and no further case of the disease occurred, nor did it spread.

In June four cases of Diphtheria occurred in Anstey; three of these were removed to Hospital.

Scarlet Fever.

Four cases occurred in one family at Cottered, all notified the same day; at Aspenden two cases occurred.

Typhoid Fever.

One case occurred at Anstey, which was traced to a village in another District; the patient came home ill and developed the disease afterwards.

Hospital Accommodation.

I must congratulate your Council on having provided Hospital accommodation for cases of infectious disease.

The Hospital is situated on an ideal position, and is well furnished with every necessary for treating cases of infectious disease when they occur.

A disinfecting apparatus is now required to make the Hospital complete.

It will not, however, be possible to treat Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever at the same time in the Hospital, but your arrangement with the Hertford and Ware Joint Hospital will be of value, should an outbreak of both of these diseases occur at the same time.

Water Supply.

I must again draw your attention to the necessity of providing a water supply to Buntingford.

By providing a supply on your own account and retaining the Water-works in your own hands, you will not only ensure a wholesome supply of water to the town, but you will derive an income from it, which in time will relieve the rates.

There are rumours of Water Companies being formed in the neighbourhood, which will still further deplete your District of its natural supply, and I would advise that you should oppose any further abstraction of water by any company unless you are guaranteed a permanent and adequate supply for the town and districts from which the water is to be taken.

Drainage and Sewerage.

Complaints were made as to the disposal of the sewage on the Sewage Farm, and I reported to you on this.

A Committee was appointed and certain alterations advised.

Dairies and Cowsheds.

Your Council have adopted the New Regulations for the better control of the Milk Supply, which gives your officers further powers of inspection of Cowsheds, Dairies, and Cattle.

Bye-laws.

Nothing has yet been done in connection with Building Bye-laws; I strongly advise your Council to consider the matter during the year.

I include in this Report a short sketch of the condition of each village with regard to Water Supply, Drainage, Refuse Disposal, and Houses of the Working Classes; what improvements have been carried out and what remains to be done.

I must congratulate the Council on having done some good work during the year, notably the provision of a Hospital, Regulation for control of Milk Supply, Improvement of Sewage Farm, Cleaning out the River, and appointing a Sanitary Inspector to give his whole time to the work.

I have advised you on previous occasions to carry out these Sanitary Improvements, and also strongly advised you to adopt a water supply and scavenging for the town.

I should like to point out that my advice is given for the benefit of the districts, and anything I may urge is only urged when considered absolutely necessary for improving the sanitary condition of the District.

I must therefore ask you to strongly consider these two questions during the year, bearing in mind that my advice is always at your service and for the benefit of the District concerned.

Appended to this Report are Tables A and B of Death and Sickness Returns, also cases of Infectious Disease notified and removed, and a sketch of each village.

Condition of the District.

ANSTEY.

Water Supply.—Public wells and ponds.

Drainage.—Into ditches.

Refuse Disposal.—By occupiers.

Occupation of Inhabitants.—Agricultural.

Disease.—Four cases of Diphtheria.

ARDELEY.

Water Supply.—From wells and ponds.

Refuse Disposal.—By occupiers.

Drainage.—Into ditch.

Occupation of Inhabitants.—Agricultural.

ASPENDEN.

Water Supply.—From wells.

Drainage.—Into ditch.

Refuse Disposal.—By occupiers.

Occupation of Inhabitants.—Agricultural.

Disease.—Two cases of Scarlet Fever.

BROADFIELD.

Water Supply.—From wells.

Drainage.—Into ditch.

Disposal of Refuse.—By occupiers.

Occupation of Inhabitants.—Agricultural.

BUCKLAND.

Water Supply.—From wells.

Drainage.—Into ditch.

Disposal of Refuse.—By occupiers.

Occupation of Inhabitants.—Agricultural.

BUNTINGFORD.

Water Supply.—From wells ; very unsatisfactory, should be a proper supply. (*See Water Supply.*)

Drainage.—Public sewer delivering on to land. Some improvement necessary in Sewage Farm.

Disposal of Refuse.—Vaults, water-closets, etc., emptied by occupiers. Some system of scavenging is required.

Disease.—Three cases of Scarlet Fever, one of Diphtheria.

COTTERED.

Water Supply.—Public well.

Drainage.—Into ditch.

Disposal of Refuse.—By occupiers.

Occupation of Inhabitants.—Agricultural.

Disease.—Four cases of Scarlet Fever.

GREAT HORMEAD.

Water Supply.—Wells.

Drainage.—Into ditches.

Disposal of Refuse.—By occupiers.

Occupation of Inhabitants.—Agricultural.

Disease.—One case of Diphtheria.

LITTLE HORMEAD.

Water Supply.—Public wells.

Drainage.—Into ditch.

Disposal of Refuse.—By occupiers.

Occupation of Inhabitants.—Agricultural.

MEESDEN.

Water Supply.—From wells and ponds.

Drainage.—Into ditch.

Disposal of Refuse.—By occupiers.

Occupation of Inhabitants.—Agricultural.

Disease.—One case of Diphtheria.

RUSHDEN.

Water Supply.—From wells.

Drainage.—Into ditch.

Refuse Disposal.—By occupiers.

Occupation of Inhabitants.—Agricultural.

| NAMES OF LOCALITIES. | MORTALITY FROM ALL CAUSES, AT SUBJOINED AGES. | | | | | | | MORTALITY FROM SUBJOINED CAUSES, DISTINGUISHING DEATHS OF CHILDREN UNDER FIVE YEARS OF AGE. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------|--|---------------|----------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|--|-----------|-------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------|------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|----------|-------------|----------|--------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|-----------|---|----------------|---------|-----------|------------------------|--------|-----|----|
| | At all ages. | Under 1 year. | 1 and under 5. | 5 and under 15. | 15 and under 25. | 25 and under 65. | 65 and upwards. | | Smallpox. | Scarlatina. | Diphtheria. | Membranous Croup. | Typhus Fever. | Enteric or Typhoid Fever. | Continued Fever. | Relapsing Fever. | Puerperal Fever. | Cholera. | Erysipelas. | Measles. | Whooping Cough. | Diarrhoea and Dysentery. | Rheumatic Fever. | Phthisis. | Bronchitis, Pneu- monia, & Pleurisy. | Heart Disease. | Cancer. | Injuries. | All other Diseases. | Total. | | |
| Little Hormead | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | Under 5 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | |
| Great Hormead | 7 | ... | ... | 1 | ... | 1 | 5 | Under 5 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | |
| Meesden | 6 | ... | ... | 1 | ... | 1 | 4 | Under 5 | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | 5 | 7 | |
| Anstey | 4 | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | 3 | Under 5 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | 2 | ... | ... | 2 | 6 | |
| Wyddial | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | Under 5 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 | 4 | |
| Buckland | 3 | 1 | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 | Under 5 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 | |
| Throcking | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | Under 5 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| Layston | 17 | 2 | ... | 1 | ... | 5 | 9 | Under 5 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 | 2 | |
| Aspenden | 7 | 1 | ... | ... | ... | 2 | 4 | Under 5 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | 5 | 2 | ... | ... | 8 | 2 | |
| Wakeley | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | Under 5 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 4 | 6 | |
| Ardeley | 5 | 2 | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 | Under 5 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 | |
| Westmill | 5 | 2 | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 2 | Under 5 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 2 | |
| Cottered | 2 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 | Under 5 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 3 | |
| Bradfield | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | Under 5 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | 1 | 2 | |
| Rushden | 6 | ... | 1 | ... | 2 | 1 | 2 | Under 5 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | |
| Wallington | 5 | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | 4 | Under 5 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 | 1 | |
| Sandon | 7 | 2 | ... | ... | ... | 2 | 3 | Under 5 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 4 | |
| Union Workhouse | 4 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4 | ... | Under 5 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | 2 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 | 6 | |
| | | | | | | | | 5 upwds. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 | ... | ... | ... | 2 | 4 | |
| TOTAL | 80 | 10 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 21 | 40 | Under 5 | ... | ... | 1 | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | 2 | ... | 3 | 5 | 6 | ... | 4 | 1 | 6 | 12 |
| | | | | | | | | 5 upwds. | ... | ... | 1 | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 15 | 6 | ... | ... | ... | 36 | 68 | |

The subjoined numbers have also to be taken into account in judging of the above records of mortality.

[illegible]

B.

TABLE OF POPULATION, BIRTHS, and of NEW CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS,
coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health, during the year 1899, in the BUNTINGFORD RURAL DISTRICT;
classified according to Diseases, Ages, and Localities.

| NAMES OF LOCALITIES. | POPULATION AT ALL AGES. | | Registered Births. | NEW CASES OF SICKNESS IN EACH LOCALITY COMING TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH. | | | | | | | | | | | | NUMBER OF SUCH CASES REMOVED FROM THEIR HOMES IN THE SEVERAL LOCALITIES, FOR TREATMENT IN ISOLATION HOSPITAL. | | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|--|-----------|-------------|-------------|-------------------|---------------|---------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|----------|-------------|---|-------------|-------------|-------------------|---------------|---------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|----------|-------------|
| | Last Census | Estimated to middle of 1899. | | Aged under 5 or over 5. | Smallpox. | Scarlatina. | Diphtheria. | Membranous Croup. | Typhus Fever. | Enteric or Typhoid Fever. | Continued Fever. | Relapsing Fever. | Puerperal Fever. | Cholera. | Erysipelas. | Smallpox. | Scarlatina. | Diphtheria. | Membranous Croup. | Typhus Fever. | Enteric or Typhoid Fever. | Continued Fever. | Relapsing Fever. | Puerperal Fever. | Cholera. | Erysipelas. |
| Buntingford | ... | .. | ... | Under 5 5 upwds. | ... | 1 2 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Union Workhouse | ... | ... | .. | Under 5 5 upwds. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Anstey | 206 | ... | 10 | Under 5 5 upwds. | ... | ... | 2 2 | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Buckland | 376 | ... | 5 | Under 5 5 upwds. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Westmill | 348 | ... | 5 | Under 5 5 upwds. | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Little Hormead | 116 | ... | 2 | Under 5 5 upwds. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Great Hormead | 436 | ... | 9 | Under 5 5 upwds. | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Meesden | 178 | ... | 4 | Under 5 5 upwds. | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Cottered | 357 | ... | 7 | Under 5 5 upwds. | ... | 2 2 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Wyddial | 282 | ... | 4 | Under 5 5 upwds. | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Bradfield | 16 | ... | ... | Under 5 5 upwds. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Throcking | 58 | ... | 1 | Under 5 5 upwds. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Layston | 889 | ... | 15 | Under 5 5 upwds. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Aspenden | 658 | ... | 17 | Under 5 5 upwds. | ... | 2 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Wakeley | ... | ... | ... | Under 5 5 upwds. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Ardeley | 464 | ... | ... | Under 5 5 up wds. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Rushden | 225 | ... | 2 | Under 5 5 upwds. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Wallington | 133 | ... | 2 | Under 5 5 upwds. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Sandon | 728 | ... | 15 | Under 5 5 upwds. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| TOTAL | 5660 | 5405 | 108 | Under 5 5 upwds. | ... | 3 7 | 2 6 | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 3 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |

SANDON.

Water Supply.—Wells and ponds; the well on the village green, to which a pump was fixed, has worked satisfactorily.

Drainage.—Into ditch.

Refuse Disposal.—By occupiers.

Occupation of Inhabitants.—Agricultural.

THROCKING.

Water Supply.—Wells.

Drainage.—Into ditch.

Refuse Disposal.—By occupiers.

Occupation of Inhabitants.—Agricultural.

WALLINGTON.

Water Supply.—This is very unsatisfactory: the water runs down by the roadside, and is obtained by dipping it from holes; a spring is carried into the village by pipe. The pipe is now broken and dilapidated. Something should be done in this water supply, which has been reported on to the Council.

Drainage.—Into ditch.

Refuse Disposal.—By occupiers.

Occupation of Inhabitants.—Agricultural.

WESTMILL.

Water Supply.—Wells.

Drainage.—Partly drained into cesspools.

Disposal of Refuse.—Vaults emptied by occupiers.

Occupation of Inhabitants.—Agricultural.

Disease.—One case of Scarlet Fever.

WYDDIAL.

Water Supply.—From wells.

Drainage.—Into ditch.

Refuse Disposal.—By occupiers.

Occupation of Inhabitants.—Agricultural.

Disease.—One case of Diphtheria.

**Summary of Work done through the Sanitary Inspector
in the Sanitary District of Buntingford during the
year ended December 31st, 1899.**

| PARTICULARS. | TOTAL NUMBER FOR YEAR. | RESULT OF INSPECTION, ETC. |
|---|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Complaints received | — | No record kept. |
| Nuisances detected without complaint | 79 | |
| Nuisances abated | 61 | |
| Notices served | 19 | |
| Cottages inspected | 209 | |
| Lodging-houses inspected | 2 | |
| Slaughterhouses inspected | 3 | |
| Houses disinfected | 18 | |
| Overcrowding abated | 1 | |
| Houses erected or rebuilt for which Water "Certificates" were applied | 1 | |
| "Certificates" granted | 1 | |
| Wells sunk or improved supplies of water afforded | 2 | |
| Wells cleansed or repaired | 5 | |
| Houses connected with sewers ... | 3 | |
| Earth, pail, or improved privies con- structed or existing privies altered | 4 | |
| Privies and w.c.'s repaired ; w.c.'s supplied with water... .. | 5 | |
| Animals improperly kept removed ... | 1 | |

HADHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

January, 1900.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for 1899.

GENTLEMEN,

I have now the pleasure of presenting to you my third Annual Report.

Population.

The population of the District, estimated to the middle of 1899, was 8,014.

Number of Deaths registered, 97.

Corrections 11.

Corrected Death Rate, 12·1 per 1000 of the population.

Birth Rate 22·3 „ „ „

Zymotic Death Rate ·6 „ „ „

Diarrhœa ·2 „ „ „

Phthisis ·7 „ „ „

Cancer ·8 „ „ „

Infant Mortality .. 89 „ „ births.

The Death Rate is much lower than last year, while the Birth Rate is rather higher.

The Zymotic Death Rate is lower, also the Death Rate from Diarrhœa, Phthisis, and Cancer.

The Infant Mortality is considerably reduced; this is very satisfactory, especially in the reduction in the Infant Mortality, which in most of the other districts still remains too high.

Last year I commented upon the high Infant Mortality, which was 145·3 per 1000 of those born.

During 1899 Summer Diarrhœa was very prevalent, causing many deaths of Infants, but in the Hadham Rural District only two deaths were due to Diarrhœa.

Deaths from Infectious Disease.

Six deaths were due to Infectious Disease. They were:—

Scarlet Fever .. 1 at Albury.

Typhoid Fever .. 1 at Thorley (contracted outside the District).

Puerperal Fever 1 at Great Hadham.

Erysipelas .. 1 at Great Hadham.

Diarrhœa .. 1 at Little Hadham.

„ .. 1 at Furneux Pelham.

Total 6

The death from Typhoid Fever occurred to a person living at Cambridge, but who came to Thorley probably suffering from the disease and was removed to Hospital.

Notification of Infectious Disease.

Forty-five cases were notified, compared with 40 in 1898 and 55 in 1897. They were:—

| | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Scarlet Fever | 2 at Sawbridgeworth. |
| „ | 5 at Great Hadham. |
| „ | 13 at Albury. |
| „ | 1 at Little Hadham. |
| Diphtheria | 16 at Sawbridgeworth. |
| „ | 1 at High Wych. |
| „ | 3 at Great Hadham. |
| „ | 1 at Albury. |
| Erysipelas | 3 at Great Hadham. |
| <hr/> | |
| Total .. | 45 |

Thirty-four of these were removed to Hospital.

Scarlet Fever.

With the exception of Albury no serious outbreak occurred.

This disease appeared at Albury and Patmore Heath in December, and spread rapidly.

There can be no doubt that mild cases of the disease existed which had not been notified and no medical man called in, and children were allowed to go about in an infectious condition, thus spreading the disease.

Some cases were discerned and reported to you, and your Council decided to prosecute the parents.

I visited the village and Patmore Heath, and found two cases which had not been removed to Hospital owing to the want of Hospital accommodation, the Hospital being full.

These patients, however, were removed to the observation wards, and no further cases reported.

Diphtheria.

Throughout the year cases of Diphtheria were notified in Sawbridgeworth Parish.

Sixteen cases were notified, 12 removed to hospital; no deaths.

The disease was of a very mild type, many children being confined to bed for only a day or two.

I did not have an opportunity of examining bacteriologically the throats of all these cases.

I visited the houses and schools, and reported to you on the occurrence of these cases.

During the year there was a marked prevalence of sore throat, and although many of these cases may not have been true Diphtheria, it is advisable that all suspicious throats should be examined, as it is in this way many outbreaks of Diphtheria are checked.

Inspection of the District.

This has been done regularly, and reports made to you monthly on nuisances which have occurred.

I include in this report a statement of the condition of each village with regard to Water Supply, Drainage, Refuse Disposal, Houses of the Working Classes, Prevalence of Disease, Dairies and Cowsheds, Sanitary Improvements required and Sanitary Improvements carried out.

Dairies and Cowsheds.

Your Council has adopted the New Regulations with regard to control of Milk Supplies, which give your officers more extended powers of Inspection.

Hospital Accommodation.

During the year 34 cases of Infectious Disease were removed to Hospital from your District.

I held an Inquiry, on behalf of the Hertfordshire County Council, into the condition of the Hospital accommodation, and the result of my Inquiry was a report that the accommodation provided was sufficient for the needs of the District.

Water Supply.

During the Summer the absence of a wholesome and plentiful supply of water was much felt in many parts, and I would urgently impress on you the necessity for taking steps to improve the supply to Great Hadham.

The proposal by certain Water Companies to still further deplete the district of its natural supply of water should be seriously opposed by your Council, unless some permanent and adequate arrangement can be made as to a supply.

Housing of the Working Classes.

In many of the villages the houses are of a very inferior description and quite unfit for habitation.

This is a question that will have to be faced very soon ; the absence of proper dwellings for the working man in the Rural Districts must be one of the chief factors in causing the depopulation of the Rural Districts.

Appended to this report is a statement of the work done by the Sanitary, Inspector and Tables A and B of the Death and Sickness Returns and cases of Infectious Disease.

ALBURY.

Water Supply.—Shallow wells and dipping holes.

Drainage.—No system ; into ditches.

Refuse Disposal.—Pits and pails, removed by occupiers. The houses are unsatisfactory.

Disease prevalent.—Thirteen cases of Scarlet Fever ; 12 cases removed to the Hospital. One case of Diphtheria not removed.

Houses.—The houses are very unsatisfactory. Chiefly boards and thatch, brick floors on clay, damp, without eave-spouting or drainage.

BRAUGHING.

Water Supply.—From shallow wells and springs.

Drainage.—Into ditches. Improved during the year.

Refuse Disposal.—Earth - closets and privies, emptied by occupiers. A few w.c.'s.

Disease prevalent.—None.

Houses.—The houses are of a better class.

An improvement was carried out in Puckeridge, of which Braughing forms a part. The sewer has been trapped and ventilated, and the outfall improved. The paths have been gravelled and kerbed, and channelled.

GREAT HADHAM.

Water Supply.—From shallow wells. This requires attention.

Drainage.—Into sewer, with outfall into a Sewage Farm, which is under the supervision of the Surveyor. The sewers are flushed regularly. The w.c.'s have no proper system of flushing.

Refuse Disposal.—The refuse is removed by the occupiers ; earth-closets, w.c.'s, and privies.

TABLE OF DEATHS during the year 1899 in the HADHAM RURAL DISTRICT,
classified according to Diseases, Ages, and Localities.

The subjoined numbers have also to be taken into account in judging of the above records of mortality.

[illegible]

B.

TABLE OF POPULATION, BIRTHS, and of NEW CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS,
coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health, during the year 1899, in the HADHAM RURAL DISTRICT;
classified according to Diseases, Ages, and Localities.

| NAME OF LOCALITIES. | POPULATION AT ALL AGES. | | Registered Births. | NEW CASES OF SICKNESS IN EACH LOCALITY COMING TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH. | | | | | | | | | | | NUMBER OF SUCH CASES REMOVED FROM THEIR HOMES IN THE SEVERAL LOCALITIES, FOR TREATMENT IN ISOLATION HOSPITAL. | | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|--|-----------|-------------|-------------|-------------------|---------------|---------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|----------|---|-----------|-------------|-------------|-------------------|---------------|---------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|----------|
| | Last Census | Estimated to middle of 1899. | | Aged under 5 or over 5. | Smallpox. | Scarlatina. | Diphtheria. | Membranous Croup. | Typhus Fever. | Enteric or Typhoid Fever. | Continued Fever. | Relapsing Fever. | Puerperal Fever. | Cholera. | Erysipelas. | Smallpox. | Scarlatina. | Diphtheria. | Membranous Croup. | Typhus Fever. | Enteric or Typhoid Fever. | Continued Fever. | Relapsing Fever. | Puerperal Fever. | Cholera. | Erysipelas. |
| Sawbridgeworth | 3025 | ... | 80 | Under 5 | ... | ... | 3 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| High Wych | | | | 5 upwds. | ... | 2 | 13 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 12 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Great Hadham | 1274 | ... | 32 | Under 5 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Albury | | | | 5 upwds. | ... | 5 | 3 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 | ... | 4 | 2 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Little Hadham | 733 | ... | 17 | Under 5 | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Thorley | | | | 5 upwds. | ... | 12 | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 12 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Braughing | 546 | ... | 10 | Under 5 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Furneux Pelham | | | | 5 upwds. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Brent Pelham | 974 | ... | 15 | Under 5 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Stocking Pelham | | | | 5 upwds. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Totals | 8014 | 8014 | 179 | Under 5 | ... | 1 | 3 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| | | | | 5 upwds. | ... | 20 | 18 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 | ... | 17 | 15 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |

Disease prevalent.—Five cases of Scarlet Fever and 3 cases of Diphtheria removed to the Hospital; 3 cases of Erysipelas not removed.

Houses.—The houses are of a better class.

LITTLE HADHAM.

Water Supply.—From shallow wells and springs.

Drainage.—No system; into ditches.

Refuse Disposal.—Removed by occupiers.

Houses of Working Classes.—Very unsatisfactory.

Disease prevalent.—One case of Scarlet Fever and 1 case of Erysipelas not removed to the Hospital.

BRENT PELHAM, FURNEUX PELHAM, STOCKING PELHAM.

Water Supply.—Shallow wells. Mr. Barclay has had a deep well sunk to supply the cottages at Stocking Pelham with water.

Drainage.—None. Slops thrown on garden or anywhere.

Refuse Disposal.—By occupiers. Mostly on to garden.

Disease prevalent.—Whooping Cough. Schools closed.

Houses.—The houses are very unsatisfactory; built of boards and thatch, with brick or mud floors, without drains.

SAWBRIDGEWORTH.

Water Supply.—From Essex Water Works Company. Some houses still are supplied by shallow wells.

Drainage.—Into sewers, with an outfall on to Sewage Farm, which is under the supervision of the Surveyor. Some houses not connected with sewers.

Refuse Disposal.—Few w.c.'s, earth-closets, privy pits. A scavenger has been appointed. 150 loads of house refuse removed during the year.

Disease prevalent.—Seventeen cases of Diphtheria, twelve cases removed to the Hospital; and 1 case of Scarlet Fever.

HIGH WYCH.

One house closed as being unfit for habitation.

THORLEY.

Water Supply.—From wells.

Drainage.—No system; into ditches. Slops on gardens.

Refuse Disposal.—By occupiers, on to gardens, etc.

Disease prevalent.—One fatal case of Enteric Fever, probably contracted outside the District.

**Summary of Work done through the Sanitary Inspector
in the Rural Sanitary District of Hadham during
the year ended December 31st, 1899.**

| | TOTAL NUMBER FOR YEAR. | RESULT OF INSPECTION, ETC. |
|---|------------------------------|--|
| Complaints received | 12 | To close cottage on Perry Green, Great Hadham. |
| Nuisances detected without complaint ... | 180 | |
| Nuisances abated | 160 | |
| Notices served | 20 | |
| Summonses taken out | 1 | |
| Convictions | 1 | And Albury Schools. |
| Cottages inspected | 230 | |
| Slaughterhouses inspected | 30 | |
| Cowsheds inspected | 12 | |
| Houses disinfected | 32 | |
| Overcrowding abated | 2 | One at High Wych, one on Perry Green, Great Hadham. |
| Houses placed in habitable repair | 15 | |
| Houses closed | 2 | |
| Houses erected or rebuilt for which Water "Certificates" were applied | 22 | |
| "Certificates" granted | 9 | |
| Houses connected with sewers | 14 | Sawbridgeworth. |
| Earth, pail, or improved privies constructed, or existing privies altered | 12 | |
| Privies and W.C.'s repaired ; W.C.'s supplied with water | 14 2 | |
| Samples of water taken for analysis ... | 3 | |
| Barges inspected | 14 | |

STANSTED RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

*January, 1900.**Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for 1899,*

GENTLEMEN,

I have now the pleasure of presenting to you my third Annual Report.

Population.

The population of the District was 8,481.

Number of Deaths registered .. 126.

Corrections 13.

Corrected Death Rate 16 per 1000 of the population.

Birth Rate 18·3 „ „ „

Zymotic Death Rate .. 1·0 „ „ „

Diarrhœa 1·1 „ „ „

Phthisis 7 „ „ „

Cancer 8 „ „ „

Infant Mortality .. 167·8 „ „ births.

The Birth Rate is about the same as last year, but the Death Rate has much increased, while the Infant Mortality is very much higher than it should be.

One hundred and thirty-nine Deaths occurred, compared with 87 in 1898, while 26 Infants under one year of age died, out of a total of 156 born during the year.

The increase in the Death Rate is due to the number of old people dying during the year, 61 deaths having occurred of persons over 65 years of age, compared with 30 in 1898.

The Infant Mortality, however, can only be accounted for by the increase in the number of deaths from Whooping Cough and Summer Diarrhœa.

Bottle-feeding and exposure cause a great many of these deaths.

In large towns where factories exist and where mothers are employed in work all day and leave their children in incompetent hands, a high Infant Mortality always occurs, but in Rural Districts this should not exist.

During the hot dry weather Summer Diarrhœa was very prevalent throughout the country; this is no doubt spread through the medium of the food, bottle-fed infants being especially liable to contract the

disease, as sufficient care is not taken to prevent the milk and infant food becoming contaminated; much could be done in this direction if parents would sterilize all milk by boiling, and carefully attend to the cleaning of all bottle utensils before and after being used.

Deaths from Infectious Disease.

Nine deaths occurred from Infectious Disease. They were:—

| | | | | | | |
|----------------|----|----|----|----|----|-------|
| Measles | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 |
| Whooping Cough | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 8 |
| | | | | | | <hr/> |
| | | | | | | 9 |

No deaths occurred from Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, or Typhoid Fever.

Diarrhœa.

Ten deaths occurred from Diarrhœa.

Notification of Infectious Disease.

Sixteen cases were notified, compared with 28 in 1898. They were:—

| | | | | |
|-----------------|----|----|----|--------------------------|
| Diphtheria | .. | .. | .. | 7 at Little Hallingbury. |
| „ | .. | .. | .. | 1 at Great Hallingbury. |
| Scarlet Fever | .. | .. | .. | 3 at Farnham. |
| „ | .. | .. | .. | 1 at Great Hallingbury. |
| „ | .. | .. | .. | 1 at Little Hallingbury. |
| „ | .. | .. | .. | 1 at Stansted. |
| Continued Fever | .. | .. | .. | 1 at Stansted. |
| Erysipelas | .. | .. | .. | 1 at Oakley. |

Total .. 16

Thirteen of these were removed to Hospital.

Diphtheria.

Only 7 cases notified at Little Hallingbury, all of which were removed to Hospital.

I visited this village several times and reported to you; the Schools were closed, and no fresh case occurred after March.

Inspection of the District.

This is done regularly and reports made to you every month.

I include in this report a statement of the condition of each village with regard to Water Supply, Drainage, Refuse Disposal, Houses of the Working Classes, Prevalence of Disease, Dairies and Cowsheds, Sanitary Improvements required and Improvements carried out.

Dairies and Cowsheds.

Your Council has adopted the New Regulation with regard to control of Milk Supply, which give your officers more extended powers of inspection.

Hospital Accommodation.

During the year 13 cases of Infectious Disease have been removed to Hospital from your District.

I held an Inquiry, on behalf of the Herts County Council, into the condition of the Hospital, and the result of my Inquiry was a report that the accommodation provided was sufficient for the needs of the District.

Water Supply.

During the Summer the absence of a wholesome and plentiful supply of water was much felt in many parts.

The proposal by several companies to further deplete the District of its natural supply of water should be very seriously opposed by your Council, unless some permanent and adequate arrangement can be made as to a supply.

Appended to this report is a statement of the work done by your Inspector during the year.

The Tables A and B give the Death and Sickness Returns and cases removed to Hospital.

BERDEN.

Water Supply.—From wells sunk into the chalk.

Drainage.—Distributed on to gardens.

Refuse Disposal.—Distributed on to gardens.

Houses of Working Classes.—Not satisfactory ; floors are brick laid on clay.

Occupation of Inhabitants.—Agricultural labourers.

Sanitary Improvements required.—Water Supply for North end of village.

Sanitary Improvements carried out.—None.

BIRCHANGER.

Water Supply.—From wells and springs.

Drainage.—Distributed on to gardens.

Refuse Disposal.—Distributed on to gardens.

Houses of Working Classes.—Not very satisfactory.

Occupation of Inhabitants.—Agricultural labourers and nurserymen.

Dairies and Cowsheds.—Three.

Sanitary Improvements required.—Privies to be reconstructed into earth-closets.

Sanitary Improvements carried out.—Some of the houses have been repaired and privies reconstructed into earth-closets.

ELSENHAM.

Water Supply.—From wells and springs.

Drainage.—Distributed on to gardens.

Refuse Disposal.—Distributed on to gardens.

Houses of Working Classes.—Very much improved.

Occupation of Inhabitants.—Farm labourers and nurserymen.

Dairies and Cowsheds.—None.

Sanitary Improvements carried out.—Some of the houses have been repaired and privies reconstructed into earth-closets. Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart., is doing a great deal to improve the houses of the working classes.

FARNHAM.

Water Supply.—From wells and springs.

Drainage.—Distributed on to gardens.

Refuse Disposal.—Distributed on to gardens.

Houses of Working Classes.—Not very satisfactory.

Occupation of Inhabitants.—Agricultural labourers.

Disease prevalent.—Three cases of Scarlet Fever removed to the Hospital. Whooping Cough and Measles. Schools closed.

Dairies and Cowsheds.—None.

Sanitary Improvements required.—Water Supply for cottages at Chatter End.

Sanitary Improvements carried out.—None.

GREAT HALLINGBURY.

Water Supply.—From wells and springs.

Drainage.—Distributed on to gardens.

Refuse Disposal.—Distributed on to gardens.

Houses of Working Classes.—Some not very satisfactory.

Occupation of Inhabitants.—Agricultural labourers.

Disease prevalent.—One case of Scarlet Fever removed to the Hospital.

Dairies and Cowsheds.—None.

Sanitary Improvements required.—None.

Sanitary Improvements carried out.—None.

LITTLE HALLINGBURY.

Water Supply.—From wells and springs.

Drainage.—Distributed on to gardens.

Refuse Disposal.—Distributed on to gardens.

Houses of Working Classes.—Not very satisfactory; some very damp.

Occupation of Inhabitants.—Agricultural labourers.

Disease prevalent.—Seven cases of Diphtheria removed to the Hospital. One case of Scarlet Fever not removed.

Dairies and Cowsheds.—Two.

Sanitary Improvements required.—Better houses for the working classes.

Sanitary Improvements carried out.—Some privies reconstructed into earth-closets.

HENHAM.

Water Supply.—From wells and springs. Suspicious.

Drainage.—Distributed on to gardens.

Refuse Disposal.—Distributed on to gardens.

Houses of Working Classes.—Great improvement required.

Occupation of Inhabitants.—Agricultural labourers.

Dairies and Cowsheds.—One.

Sanitary Improvements required.—Drainage for slop and surface water.

Sanitary Improvements carried out.—None. The Parish Council have been called upon to improve the water supply and consider a scheme for the disposal of the slop and surface water.

MANUDEN.

Water Supply.—From wells.

Drainage.—Ordinary closets. Slops and waste water to surface drains.

Refuse Disposal.—Distributed on to gardens.

Houses of Working Classes.—Some houses on the Up Lands are very inferior.

Occupation of Inhabitants.—Agricultural labourers.

Disease prevalent.—Measles.

Dairies and Cowsheds.—One.

Sanitary Improvements required.—Improved water supply for the Up Land Cottages.

Sanitary Improvements carried out.—None.

STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET.

Water Supply.—Partly by wells, partly by Water Works Company.

Drainage.—Mostly cesspools emptied by District Council at the expense of the Parish.

Refuse Disposal.—Private sewer for a portion of the houses, and cesspools. A drainage scheme has been under consideration for the last 25 years.

Occupation of Inhabitants.—Agricultural labourers and nursery-men. About 150 hands employed at the Factory.

Disease prevalent.—One case of Continued Fever and 1 case of Scarlet Fever not removed to the Hospital.

Dairies and Cowsheds.—Three.

Sanitary Improvements required.—A proper system of drainage and sewage disposal, which has been under consideration for some time.

Sanitary Improvements carried out.—None.

OAKLEY.

Water Supply.—From wells and springs.

Drainage.—Distributed on to gardens.

Refuse Disposal.—Distributed on to the gardens.

Houses of Working Classes.—Not very satisfactory; floors are brick laid on clay.

Occupation of Inhabitants.—Agricultural labourers.

Disease prevalent.—One case of Erysipelas.

TABLE OF DEATHS during the year 1899 in the STANSTED RURAL DISTRICT,
classified according to Diseases, Ages, and Localities.

The subjoined numbers have also to be taken into account in judging of the above records of mortality.

[illegible]

B.

TABLE OF POPULATION, BIRTHS, and of NEW CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS,
coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health, during the year 1899, in the STANSTED RURAL DISTRICT ;
classified according to Diseases, Ages, and Localities.

| NAME OF LOCALITIES. | POPULATION AT ALL AGES. | | Registered Births. | NEW CASES OF SICKNESS IN EACH LOCALITY COMING TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH. | | | | | | | | | | | | NUMBER OF SUCH CASES REMOVED FROM THEIR HOMES IN THE SEVERAL LOCALITIES, FOR TREATMENT IN ISOLATION HOSPITAL. | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|--|-----------|-------------|-------------|-------------------|---------------|---------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|----------|-------------|---|-------------|-------------|-------------------|---------------|---------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|----------|-------------|--|
| | Last Census | Estimated to middle of 1899. | | Aged under 5 or over 5. | Smallpox. | Scarlatina. | Diphtheria. | Membranous Croup. | Typhus Fever. | Enteric or Typhoid Fever. | Continued Fever. | Relapsing Fever. | Puerperal Fever. | Cholera. | Erysipelas. | Smallpox. | Scarlatina. | Diphtheria. | Membranous Croup. | Typhus Fever. | Enteric or Typhoid Fever. | Continued Fever. | Relapsing Fever. | Puerperal Fever. | Cholera. | Erysipelas. | |
| Ugley | 398 | ... | 2 | Under 5 5 upwds. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | | |
| Great Hallingbury | 581 | ... | 12 | Under 5 5 upwds. | ... | 1 | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | | |
| Little Hallingbury | 611 | ... | 11 | Under 5 5 upwds. | ... | 1 | 6 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 6 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | | |
| Elsenham | 423 | ... | 13 | Under 5 5 upwds. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | | |
| Farnham | 477 | ... | 12 | Under 5 5 upwds. | ... | 3 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | | |
| Stansted | 2117 | ... | 45 | Under 5 5 upwds. | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | | |
| Birchanger | 469 | ... | 16 | Under 5 5 upwds. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | | |
| Henham | 813 | ... | 23 | Under 5 5 upwds. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | | |
| Berden | 336 | ... | 7 | Under 5 5 upwds. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | | |
| Manuden | 683 | ... | 15 | Under 5 5 upwds. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | | |
| Totals | 6908 | 8481 | 156 | Under 5 5 upwds. | ... | ... | 1 7 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 10 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | | |

**Summary of Work done through the Sanitary Inspector
in the Rural Sanitary District of Stansted, Essex,
during the year ended December 31st, 1899.**

| | TOTAL NUMBER FOR YEAR. | RESULT OF INSPECTION, ETC. |
|---|------------------------------|---|
| Complaints received | 24 | |
| Nuisances detected without complaint ... | 345 | |
| Nuisances abated | 260 | |
| Notices served | 36 | |
| Cottages inspected | 430 | |
| Slaughterhouses inspected | 12 | |
| Cowsheds inspected | 14 | |
| Houses disinfected | 11 | And Little Hallingbury School |
| Overcrowding abated | 3 | |
| Houses placed in habitable repair | 15 | |
| Houses erected or rebuilt for which Water "Certificates" were applied | 56 | Houses erected |
| "Certificates" granted | 13 | For the 56 houses erected |
| Wells sunk or improved supplies of water afforded | 5 | 2 Birchanger, 1 Oakley, 1 Little Hallingbury, 1 Elsenham |
| Houses connected with sewers | 2 | Stansted private sewer |
| Houses connected with water mains | 45 | Stansted Co. main |
| Earth, pail, or improved privies con- structed or existing privies altered ... | 30 | |
| Samples of water taken for analysis ... | 2 | |

PARTICULARS OF INFECTIOUS CASES.

HADHAM DISTRICT, 1899.

| Parish. | Diphtheria. | Typhoid Fever. | Scarlet Fever. | Erysipelas. | Deaths. |
|------------------------|-------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------|-----------------|
| Aldbury | 1 | ... | 13 | ... | 1 Scarlet Fever |
| Braughing | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| Great Hadham | 3 | ... | 5 | 3 | |
| Little Hadham | ... | ... | 1 | 1 | |
| Brent Pelham | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| Furneux Pelham | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| Stocking Pelham | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| Sawbridgeworth | 17 | ... | 2 | ... | |
| Thorley | ... | 1 Enteric | ... | ... | 1 Enteric Fever |
| Total | 21 | 1 | 21 | 4 | 2 |

STANSTED DISTRICT, 1899.

| Parish. | Diphtheria. | Typhoid Fever. | Scarlet Fever. | Erysipelas. | Deaths. |
|---------------------------|-------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------|---------|
| Berden | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| Birchanger | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| Elsenham | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| Great Hallingbury | ... | ... | 1 | ... | |
| Little Hallingbury | 7 | ... | 1 | ... | |
| Henham | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| Manuden | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| Stansted | ... | 1 Continued | 1 | ... | |
| Oakley | ... | ... | ... | 1 | |
| Farnham | ... | ... | 3 | ... | |
| Total | 7 | 1 | 6 | 1 | |

Report of Medical Officer of Health,

1899.

TWELFTH ANNUAL REPORT on the Health and Sanitary Condition of the East Grinstead Urban District, for the year ending 31st December, 1899.

| | | | |
|--|-----|-----|--------------|
| Area | ... | ... | 6,355 acres. |
| Population (Census of 1891) | ... | ... | 5,180 |
| Estimated Population to the middle of 1899 | ... | ... | 6,000 |

In 1899 the deaths of 97 persons at all ages and from all causes were recorded in the district, against 99 in 1898, and 92 in 1897.

These 97 deaths were at the rate of 16·1 per 1,000 of the total population. Of this number 16, or 15·5 per cent., were of children under one year of age, and were in the proportion of 9·3 per cent. of those born; 38, or 39·1 per cent., were of persons 60 years of age and upwards.

The deaths of 9 persons 80 years of age and upwards were recorded, the oldest being 93 years old; 16 children died under the age of one year, in the proportion of 93 per 1,000 registered births. Of the 97 recorded deaths, 2 occurred in the Sanatorium, 19 in the Workhouse, and 5 in the Cottage Hospital. Excluding these 26 deaths, the death-rate was 11·1. Of the 97 deaths, 14 were of persons not residing in the district, but brought into it from outside districts, 9 of them dying in the Workhouse, 3 in the Cottage Hospital, and 2 in the Sanatorium.

Corrected Death Rate.

The corrected death-rate for the Urban District is therefore 13·8 per 1,000 persons living. In 1898 the death-rate was 12·5.

Births.

The births numbered 172, an increase of 36 from the previous year. 86 of these children were males and 86 females, equal to a birth-rate of 28·6 per 1,000 of the population.

The table of deaths from all causes appended to this report will show you that with the exception of 4 fatal cases of diarrhoea in young children during the great heat of the Summer months, there was not a single death from any one of the ordinary zymotic diseases, these 4 deaths were in the proportion of 3·8 per cent. of the recorded deaths from all causes, being a very favourable contrast to the percentage of 21·2 of the previous year.

Notification of Infectious Diseases.

The number of cases reported to me under the Notification of Infectious Diseases Act was 39, and were as follows:

| | | | |
|----------------------------|-----|-----|----|
| Scarlet Fever | ... | ... | 15 |
| Measles | ... | ... | 8 |
| Erysipelas | ... | ... | 6 |
| Diphtheria | ... | ... | 6 |
| Enteric Fever (or Typhoid) | ... | ... | 4 |
| | | | 39 |

Out of these 39 cases 21 were removed to the Sanatorium, viz. :

| | | | |
|---------------|-----|-----|----|
| Scarlet Fever | ... | ... | 15 |
| Diphtheria | ... | ... | 5 |
| Typhoid | ... | ... | 1 |

It is most satisfactory to notice that all the cases of Scarlet Fever were removed from their own homes to the Sanatorium, efficient isolation being thus secured during the time of peeling.

Only 8 cases of Measles were reported during the year, against 335 in 1898.

There were admitted to the Sanatorium 45 cases of an infectious nature from outside Districts, viz. :

| | | | |
|----------------------|-----|-----|----|
| East Grinstead Rural | ... | ... | 28 |
| Cuckfield Rural | ... | ... | 17 |

Regarding the cases from Cuckfield, there is no Isolation Hospital in that District, and the East Grinstead Urban Council agreed to receive cases from Cuckfield, provided there was accommodation to spare at the High Grove Sanatorium. There were thus 66 cases in all admitted to the Sanatorium, with two deaths, one from Typhoid Fever, the other from Diphtheria.

Diphtheria.

There were only 6 cases of Diphtheria reported to me during the year: only one of these occurred in the town, *i.e.*, within the area connected with the drainage system, and supplied with water from the mains ; in this particular case the premises were over-stocked with birds in cages, the roof was converted into a pigeon loft, and there were a great number of tame rabbits in hutches close to the back door of the cottage.

Tubercle.

There were 13 deaths from Tubercle, 9 of these were inhabitants of East Grinstead, the other 4 died in the Workhouse, having been brought in from the Rural District.

Nothing has been done in East Grinstead towards providing a Sanatorium or Hospital for the " open-air " treatment of Consumption.

Cancer.

The deaths from Cancer were only 3, and were in the very low ratio of .5 per 1,000 of those living.

Enteric Fever.

Four cases of Typhoid Fever were reported, two of the patients failed with the disease a few days after arriving in the town, and I was able to trace the source of infection in one case to Hayling Island, in the other to Cirencester.

The other two Typhoid patients were working men who had been employed in drainage work outside the District, they apparently contracted the fever as the result of exposure to foul gas from drains.

Influenza.

The last month of the year was marked by a widespread epidemic of Influenza. It rapidly spread through the District, and probably affected more people than has been the case in any epidemic since the first one in 1891. Although the disease was, speaking generally, of a mild type, there were a good many cases in which complications arose, generally affecting the digestive tract or the lungs, the death of 3 persons were directly referred to Influenza.

Anthrax

Owing to the death of two sheep from Anthrax at East Court Farm, the selling of milk from the farm dairy was prohibited for six weeks.

Water.

Three samples of water were sent me for analysis, two of them were of good quality, the third sample was from a well supplying Nos. 141 to 151, West Street. As far as I could decide by chemical tests, the water was pure, but as the well was sunk in the sand-rock and was close to the Cemetery, the water standing many feet below the level of the graves, I recommended a sample of the water to be sent to Guy's Hospital for Bacteriological Examination. This was done with the result that the water was condemned as containing putrefactive Bacteria, thus indicating that the water had percolated through the soil from the Cemetery. This well has been under suspicion on former occasions owing to the outbreaks of illness in the houses obtaining their drinking water from it. I notice on referring back to my monthly reports that in January, 1897, I observed, "this well is in dangerous proximity to the Cemetery." On receipt of Dr. Stephenson's report, the well was closed and the town water laid on.

The water supplied to the town by the Water Company was analysed on three occasions by Dr. Stephenson. In the early months of the year there were an unusual number of bacteria—of a perfectly harmless nature—present. On investigating the sources of supply I found that one of the springs at Hill Place had been muddled by the first heavy rains after the long Summer drought. This spring was cut off, and Dr. Stephenson's subsequent analysis showed the water to be of excellent quality, containing only a minimum quantity of harmless germs.

Scavenging.

The scavenging of the town, and the collection of house refuse, were regularly performed in a very satisfactory manner.

The Sewage Farm appeared to me to be well managed. I frequently examined the effluent water and invariably found it clear and odourless.

The District was regularly inspected, disinfectants were freely supplied were necessary by your Surveyor, who was most prompt in removing cases of an infectious nature to the Sanatorium.

Street watering was uninterruptedly carried out through the hot, dry Summer, and the sewers were efficiently flushed.

At my house the rainfall for the year amounted to 31·65 inches, being exactly the average for the last ten years, and was 8 inches more than the rainfall of the previous year.

Old Stone House,

East Grinstead,

March 1st, 1900.

PERCY E. WALLIS,

Medical Officer of Health.

